

THE TIMES

Scenario for autumn election: David Wood, page 13

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Warm Israel welcome for President Nixon despite alarm over nuclear deal

President Nixon arrived in Israel yesterday to a warm official welcome which concealed the strong disquiet felt in the country about his nuclear agreement with Egypt, announced last week. Mr Nixon drove to a working session with Israeli leaders, accom-

panied by Dr Kissinger. The talks will be continued today. In Damascus earlier, Mr Nixon had taken a further step in the repairing of American friendship with Arab nations by agreeing to the reestablishment of full diplomatic relations between Syria and the United States.

Talks to cover \$1,500m arms aid

From Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, June 16
Israelis put their gratitude for past favours above their alarm over more recent events and welcomed President Nixon with cheers and brave smiles today. They were saluting the man who came to their aid with massive arms supplies in 1970 when Russian domination of the Middle East seemed a threat, and who speeded up the airlift of tanks and aircraft during the worst days of the October war.

For the moment they forgot their fears that Mr Nixon's policy of closer ties with the Arab states might carry new risks for their security, and the latest shock caused by his agreement to provide Egypt with nuclear power reactors and uranium for them. As television viewers watched Mr Nixon's "Spirit of '76" aircraft coming in to land at Ben Gurion airport a commentator said that the President was being welcomed "in spite of these misgivings".

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The decision to give President Nixon nuclear aid is sure to be the focal point of the talks the President is holding today and tomorrow with Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and his colleagues. It has caused a political sensation here which has been damped down to the nation's guest, but is sure to rage after he has gone. First reactions by Government leaders were mild. Mr Abba Eban, the Information Minister, pointed out that Israel had been receiving nuclear research from the United States since 1955. Mr Yigal Alon, the Foreign Minister, said he was "not happy" about the news and regretted that Israel had been given no advance notice of it. But he did not think there was any military danger to Israel, because effective inspection would prevent it.

President Nixon said it was a very great moment for him to be the first United States President to visit Israel. He recalled that he had made visits to the Holy Land in 1956 and in the last days of the 1967 war; when he met troops and their leaders. He realized then how much Israel had gone through to defend itself in war, how much it had cost and "how much the goal of peace means for both sides". The terrible danger of war had to be reduced and later removed. He was travelling to nations which had over the years been Israel's traditional adversaries, and the main purpose of this tour and his later visit to the Soviet Union was "to seek peace for the whole world". He added: "We have taken the first step along that long road. We are dedicated to it and we believe that you are too."

At the entrance of the city an estimated 30,000 schoolchildren lined the roads and there were large crowds in the vicinity of the King David Hotel and did not run close to the Arab suburbs. At the hotel, which has been almost completely cleared of guests to make way for the American visitors, Mr Nixon held a working session this evening with Mr Rabin, Mr Alon and Mr Peres, the Defence Minister. The President was accompanied by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, and senior officials. After the meeting, which lasted nearly an hour and a half, he visited the residence of President Katzir and then made a courtesy call on Mrs Golda Meir, who is still living in the Prime Minister's official residence though she left office two weeks ago. This evening he is attending a state banquet at the Knesset.

Others not involved in welcoming Mr Nixon have been sharper with their criticism. The Likud opposition party has accused Mr Alon of toning down his reaction. So has Mr Yosef Almog, the Mayor of Haifa and former Labour Minister. The Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee, which has many Government members, has expressed its concern over the agreement. Israeli scientists are reported to be doubtful over the efficacy of American inspection of an Egyptian nuclear plant and to

stretch along the roof of the airport building. Plans for an Israeli fighter escort to meet his aircraft were cancelled in view of yesterday's misunderstanding over a similar gesture by the Syrian Air Force. The procession, with the President in a closed bulletproof car, first passed through the narrow streets of Lod, the birthplace of St George, which was an Arab town until 1948 but is now almost wholly Jewish. Townspeople lined rope barriers to wave to the visitors. Then the procession sped past the jail at Ramle where hundreds of convicted Arab terrorists are held, to climb the road to Jerusalem through the Kibbutz of the Avyalon Valley. At the entrance of the city an estimated 30,000 schoolchildren lined the roads and there were large crowds in the vicinity of the King David Hotel and did not run close to the Arab suburbs. At the hotel, which has been almost completely cleared of guests to make way for the American visitors, Mr Nixon held a working session this evening with Mr Rabin, Mr Alon and Mr Peres, the Defence Minister. The President was accompanied by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, and senior officials. After the meeting, which lasted nearly an hour and a half, he visited the residence of President Katzir and then made a courtesy call on Mrs Golda Meir, who is still living in the Prime Minister's official residence though she left office two weeks ago. This evening he is attending a state banquet at the Knesset.

In the working sessions, which continue to Syria now, it is not expected that substantive proposals for further peace moves will be made but Mr Nixon will hear the views and reservations of Israel's leaders on the progress made so far with Egypt and Syria. There will also be bilateral talks on Israel's request for long-term aid, already agreed in principle with Dr Kissinger. This would cover Israel's defence needs over the next five or six years and reported to involve \$1,500m. It includes sophisticated weapons intended to match latest Soviet supplies to Arab states. Photograph, page 4

Inconclusive tests on rally clash victim

By Martin Huckerby
A post-mortem examination of a student who died after fighting broke out during political demonstrations in Red Lion Square, London, on Saturday was inconclusive, Scotland Yard said yesterday. Mr Tony Gilbert, a member of the National Front, suggested yesterday that the student, Mr Kevin Gately, might have died because of a cerebral haemorrhage or from a blow on the head. He blamed police action for the death. Mr Gately, aged 21, a mathematics student at Warwick University, was found by St John Ambulance men lying on the ground amid the fighting. He was taken to University College Hospital, where he died four hours later.

Scotland Yard said further tests were being carried out on the body and the result was expected today; there was no sign of physical injury. Mr Gilbert, who was in charge of the demonstration against a march by the National Front to Conway Hall, complained of "brutal" police action. Miss Jacqueline Stevens, a Warwick University student and a member of the International Marxist Group, said she saw a line of demonstrators with her right arm linked to Mr Gately's when the police charged. "We tried to get through, to get to Conway Hall," she said. "The police, with obvious delight, saw my felly Highclere, a favourite in the race, win the Prix de Diane in the Chantilly afternoon before a large crowd of French well-wishers, who gave her an enthusiastic welcome. She had come to France on a visit of a few hours. It was a perfect sunny day, and the Queen arrived shortly before noon at the military air base of Creil, north of Paris, where she was greeted on behalf of President Giscard d'Estaing by a member of the Queen's household. The course just before 3 pm and took her seat in the box of the private enclosure. She wore a blue and green printed silk summer dress, and a green turban with a matching headscarf. She was accompanied by two men, one of whom she greeted with a kiss. She was seen to be talking to a man in a dark suit, who she pressed around the



Highclere, with Joe Mercer in the saddle, is led in by her owner, the Queen, after winning the Prix de Diane—the French equivalent of the Oaks—at Chantilly yesterday. Report, page 6

Queen sees filly win in France

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, June 16
The Queen, with obvious delight, saw her filly Highclere, a favourite in the race, win the Prix de Diane in the Chantilly afternoon before a large crowd of French well-wishers, who gave her an enthusiastic welcome. She had come to France on a visit of a few hours. It was a perfect sunny day, and the Queen arrived shortly before noon at the military air base of Creil, north of Paris, where she was greeted on behalf of President Giscard d'Estaing by a member of the Queen's household. The course just before 3 pm and took her seat in the box of the private enclosure. She wore a blue and green printed silk summer dress, and a green turban with a matching headscarf. She was accompanied by two men, one of whom she greeted with a kiss. She was seen to be talking to a man in a dark suit, who she pressed around the

Accompanied by M. de Chevigny, the director of the Société d'Encouragement, she then the Queen congratulated her jockey, Joe Mercer, after the race, the wives of owners and trainers and guests had made a special effort at elegance, and there were many large picture hats reminiscent of a garden party. Highclere won the mile and two-and-a-quarter furlong race, the French equivalent of the Oaks, by two lengths, breaking clear in the last 100 yards and going away at the finish. It was the Queen's first victory in a French classic, and with entry fees added the prize of almost £50,000 is by far the largest she has won in racing. The Queen left Chantilly after watching the fifth race, and drove back to Creil where she boarded an aircraft for the Queen's Flight for London.

Azores meeting with Portuguese head of state

Lisbon, June 16.—President Nixon will meet President Spínola of Portugal during a brief stop in the Azores on Wednesday on his way home from the Middle East. Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Foreign Minister, said today. An American spokesman here confirmed the meeting and said the talks would begin at 11 am local time, but gave no further details. A Portuguese Foreign Ministry statement tonight said the meeting would be a "useful and advantageous exchange of views within the framework of the good relations existing between the two countries". President Spínola will leave for the meeting on Tuesday—UPI and Reuters. Spínola talks collapse: Officials close to the insurgent Guinea-Bissau delegation to the Algiers peace talks with Portugal said today the negotiations had collapsed completely. "It's not a matter of suspending or interrupting the talks, but a complete stop of negotiations", they said. —UPI.

Syria and US to restore full diplomatic links

From Paul Martin
Damascus, June 16
President Nixon wound up his visit to Damascus today with a United States commitment to work with Syria to a Middle East peace based on Israel withdrawal. Making an event which would have been unthinkable less than six months ago, the two countries decided to reestablish full diplomatic links. Although the occasion lacked the pomp, ceremony and sheer enthusiasm of Mr Nixon's visit to Egypt, the 24 hours he spent here were no less important. There were no dramatic announcements about economic aid or instant solution to the Middle East, but the two countries gave formal expression to their rapprochement. Even more important from the Syrian point of view is that this has happened with few apparent concessions on Syria's part. The Republic's move, clear by President Nixon when he said that he agreed with President Hafez al-Assad, of Syria, that disengagement was merely "a first step" towards full peace. Throughout the talks and in

public appearances, President Assad has emphasized "only the question of 'complete' Israeli withdrawal, but also Palestinian rights". This was a case President Nixon had already heard put forcibly by both President Sadat of Egypt, and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia. However, it was in Damascus, that Mr Nixon declared his "understanding" of Arab feelings over the Palestine issue. For his part Mr Nixon has won the endorsement of President Assad for their continued joint peace efforts under the United Nations resolution 338. However, the most important aspect of Mr Nixon's visit was the decision of the two countries locked in ideological battle for almost a decade, to correct the mistakes of the past. This forms a solid basis for Mr Nixon on which to pursue his attempts to win Congressional approval for a \$100m (£41m) aid to Syria as part of the peace effort. President Assad accepted an invitation to visit the United States "at a date to be fixed". This would be the first visit of a Syrian President to the United States. Continued on page 4, col 5

Man catches 2ft carp in flooded street

Mr William Smith caught a two-foot carp in his back garden in Chalk Road, Redfield, Bristol, yesterday after a lake in a park near by overflowed during a thunderstorm. At the height of the flooding on Saturday night, water near St George's Park, Redfield, was four feet deep in muddy water. Fish from the lake swam in the flooded streets as council workmen pumped away the water. Mr Smith, who was a Manchester United supporter and was used to being in big crowds.

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Construction men in militant mood

From Paul Roudledge
Labour Correspondent
Blackpool
A. Arthur, boss in the health of the construction industry, after its definition last Thursday by the Scottish miners is expected to be made at the policy-making conference in Blackpool tomorrow of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians. Militant branches of the union have tabled a proposal for a wage of £45 for a 35-hour week, to be won by industrial action if necessary. The target, which would mean increases of up to 45 per cent for a million men in the construction industry, is likely to be endorsed by the biennial conference, but it presents a dilemma to Mr George Smith, the union's general secretary, who is a son-in-law of the TUC General and a loyal adherent of the "social contract". At present the basic rates for a 40-hour week are £29 for

craftsmen, with a bonus of £3 making a guaranteed minimum of £32. In addition, a cost-of-living "three old" supplement of £1.20 a week has recently been agreed upon. The "social contract" established after a 20-year struggle in 1972, in the wake of the miners' stoppage, does not expire until November, but militant delegates are expected to press for immediate negotiations on a new one. A tough fight is struck in the report of the executive committee to the conference, which says: "There can be no doubt that the large increase in the basic rate of the 1972 dispute was entirely attributable to the solidarity shown by building workers during the strike, and the erosion of the summer served as an object lesson to the employers." Sadly, the effects of this lesson seem to be wearing off

in some quarters, it will be seen, if some employers will have to be reminded of the 1972 lesson. The conference will also discuss the issue of Labour Party membership, which has taken a sharp decline since the 1972 election. The executive concedes in its report that the industry's voluntary register of employers, which was intended to limit the effects of unemployment, is no success, but argues that it should be recognized as "an important first step in the long process of the building industry putting its house in order". Several resolutions on the agenda insist, however, that the register, which is said to cover about half the industry's labour force, is not enough and that legislation to "outlaw" the "lump" should be enacted. Scamion backing expected. —page 2

Provisional IRA agrees to talks with Protestant groups

By Robert Fisk
Newry, Co. Down
The Provisional IRA yesterday confirmed that it would talk to the "loyalists" in Northern Ireland, but would not, as Protestant leaders have demanded, take part in any conference about the future of Ulster which excluded anyone outside the province. A disclosure on Saturday that the Ulster Volunteer Force and other loyalist paramilitary groups were talking about a ceasefire with the Provisionals, followed by talks about the future of the province, has therefore not persuaded the IRA to support the use of the Ulster nationalism. The annual address at the Dungannon ceremony, at the residence of Theobald Wolfe Tone—Protestant, and in later years Irish patriot—Mr Seamus

Loughran, one of the Sinn Féin leaders in Belfast, who has been interned, said that the Provisional IRA commander, said that the onus for peace in the North lay partly on the Protestants to talk with republicans. The Republican movement will not be found wanting in its willingness to talk", he added. The leaders of the strike that brought down the Northern Ireland Executive have said repeatedly that they would talk to the Provisionals if the IRA could gain momentum in an election, but that any future coalition about the next government of Northern Ireland must involve Ulstermen only. The IRA operation is a ritual affair each year and always contains the view of the Provisionals' army. There were several leading IRA men from Belfast present as well as

Mr Sean MacStiofain, the former Provisional chief of staff, although he took no part in the ceremony. Once again, long ranks of men in black uniforms, berets and dark glasses were allowed to parade openly the three and a half miles from the local railway station to the cemetery. Afterwards police cordoned off every road leading from the district. Several hundred policemen in blue riot helmets stopped every car while Irish troops carrying sub-machine guns and FN rifles crouched in the ditches. In spite of the IRA's refusal to negotiate with the Protestants on an exclusively Ulster basis, the weekend witnessed a remarkable determination by the loyalists to come to terms with republicans. Last week officers in the UDA's West Belfast brigade

Unions 'black' local radio

Trade unionists at Derby are to refuse to be interviewed on the BBC local radio station, and to withhold information on industrial and union matters, because of a dispute between the station and the Musicians' Union over a non-union group which broadcast. The station was declared "black" by Derby Trades Council. Mr Charles Howell, its secretary said: "The management of Radio Derby declined to give an assurance that only union musicians will be employed."

Tory club is raided

Strand Green Conservative Club, Finsbury Park, north London, was raided by police last night for allegedly serving drinks after hours.

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HOME NEWS

Troops shoot Ulster man said to have had mental age of 10

From a Staff Reporter Belfast. Mr Austin Currie, the Social Democratic and Labour Party Assemblyman who was Minister of Housing in the Northern Ireland Executive, is to take up the case of a young man, said to have had a mental age of 10, who was shot dead by the Army on Saturday.

Mr Patrick Cunningham, aged 22, was killed by troops 200 yards from his home at Benburb, co Tyrone, after refusing to stop when challenged during a search operation. The Army says he appeared to try to draw a gun, but confirmed later that no weapon was found on him.

Controversy was aroused in Northern Ireland during the early days of the civil violence when one of the first men to be shot dead by the Army, in Strabane, co Tyrone, turned out to be a deaf mute. Local Roman Catholics are demanding an inquiry into Mr Cunningham's death. They say that he was unarmed and had no connexion with the IRA or any other organization.

The Army says that during a search operation by troops, believed to be from the Life Guards, a man ran out of some bushes and appeared to be about to draw a weapon from his pocket. He was repeatedly challenged but refused to stop and was shot.

Residents say that Mr Cunningham had probably run away because he was frightened of men in uniform. They claimed he had been assaulted by soldiers a year ago. The police are holding a routine inquiry and the Army's special investigation branch is conducting the investigation required after every shooting incident involving the security forces.

Mr Currie is expected to take up the matter with the British Government. Mr Seamus Mallon, chairman of the SDLP Assembly party, who went to the scene of the shooting, has demanded that Mr Rees, the Secretary of State, should treat the death as murder. He says that the Army did not allow anyone near the body for two hours after the shooting.

The wife of a shop owner in Armagh and a Chinese kitchen hand in Belfast were badly wounded at the weekend. On Saturday, Mrs Geraldine Corri was shot in the temple by two armed men trying to rob the family shop in Cathedral Road, Armagh, after she had thrown a wire basket at them.

Damage to Cambridge Rubens may be lasting

By Kenneth Gosling Arts Reporter. Deep grooves forming the letters "IRA" on the surface of Rubens's "Adoration of the Kings" in King's College chapel, Cambridge, may never be removed entirely by restoration, the Rev Michael Till, the Dean, said yesterday.

The damage was noticed by a visitor on Saturday after police had been called to investigate the robbery of an offertory box by thieves who broke in the previous evening.

The painting, valued conservatively at more than £1m, hangs behind the altar at the east end of the chapel. It was given to King's College in 1961 by Major Alfrid Allmar, who had paid £275,000 for it at auction two years earlier of the Duke of Westminster's estate.

People were able to see the painting as usual yesterday and the disfigurement was clearly visible. There was only an oblique reference to the incident at the morning service. "By sheer coincidence", the Dean said, "it is the one time we designate the collection for King's College chapel expenses, which have obviously gone up considerably. Repairs to the painting will run well into four figures."

Mr Till said the painting had been seen yesterday by Professor Michael Jaffe, director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, a fellow of King's College and an expert on art restoration. He will be making a thorough examination.

Mr Till said he believed that in some lights the deep grooves, which were flat-bottomed and could have been caused by a screwdriver or a coin, would show up even after restoration to anyone who knew where to look.

One was Dr Stuart Holland, an economist and a champion of the proposal. He was an active member of the Labour Party's public sector group which had originated the proposal.

The chairman of that group was Mrs Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, who recruited Dr Holland as her economic adviser when Labour came into office.

The Treasury was not represented on the working party but it soon became aware of its deliberations. By then nothing could be done to halt production of the draft Green Paper.

But the Treasury, according to one source, shifted the emphasis of its argument. It became a question whether the Government given the economic climate, could afford such a



A section of the crowd in Trafalgar Square, London, yesterday during demonstrations in support of nationalist movements in the three Portuguese African territories of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau.

Treasury started Benn campaign

Continued from page 1

board. It was then that Mr Benn and others decided to come into the open and make speeches about the Green Paper. Nothing was said, in fact, outside the commitment contained in the manifesto. Although the confidential document Mr Benn presented to the TUC-Government liaison committee on the work of his department elaborated on the manifesto, most of the details could have been found in Labour's programme produced last year.

Mr Benn, it is clear, has set out to defeat the system by going outside it to win the support of the trade unions and the party rank and file. The disagreements among ministers are not so much over the proposal, although they will undoubtedly be watered down when they reach the public enterprise committee, as over Mr Benn's tactic. They could be highly damaging electric charges and the gas and electricity industries in particular.

Mr Benn says that he is not criticizing past governments for paying the money. But he does see it as part of his argument that private enterprise should be accountable for the way it spends the taxpayers' money.

Next week the government and opposition arguments on the issue will be given an airing in the Commons because the Conservatives have tabled a motion for debate. Many politicians see it as a dress rehearsal for the general election.

Whitehall concern over plant closure

By Maurice Corina Industrial Editor. The British Steel Corporation's chemicals plant in Bristol will be reopened after repairs have been completed and the local authority is satisfied with the results of inquiries on the spot, it became clear yesterday.

There is concern in Whitehall that Mr Wedgwood Benn was acting beyond his ministerial responsibilities if he ordered the closure of the plant last Wednesday because of alleged fire dangers.

Mr Benn is Secretary of State for Industry, but government responsibility for safety is vested in Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment.

The Department of Industry said yesterday: "Mr Benn had no statutory powers to close down this factory on safety grounds."

This is a matter for Mr Foot through the Factories Inspectorate. But the need for that did not arise since Mr Benn is the sponsoring minister for the British Steel Corporation, and the Secretary of State was in a position to ask the chairman, Dr Mervyn Finiston, to close the factory.

Phoney war of parties nearly over - Mr He

The "phoney war" between Labour and Conservatives is nearly over, Mr He said on Saturday. He told the annual conference of the Conservative Party in Wales: "We have had our nerve through a wrong move, how unintended, could have Wilson the excuse to fight an election."

He and his would have welcomed more than a quick fight without re-creating the real problem that period is ending. The Conservative Party has a sense of the time with Mr Wilson's tactics. While Labour's decision to begin to deal as the shoddy insect social contract is an open public relations game, it is really, then, bringing forward a well thought out programme.

Mr Whitehead, Party chairman, said on Saturday many Labour MPs, left-wingers, wanted an election before the 1974-75 session. A bigger majority so can be won. Leadership still from the policies of ally social democracy. Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Lincoln, Britain would race unions applied a energy. They put claims to delivery. This happened, would be able to the higher pay the Mr David Steel, Chief Whip, told Liberal Party's con- Andrews that Scot- ists and ready to co-oper- meaning the Kill mission - recom- self-government. But the recom- ally a first step, substitute for the of having full se- for Scotland.

Scanlon expected 'social co'

By Our Labour S. One of the from rank and f- lists to the TUC wages of soci- the Government emerge this we conference of th- Union of Engin- 'The conference in Great Yarm- Mr Hugh Scanlon to endorse the tract". He is a TUC economist which last week posals for holdi- to the level wi- kept pace with living.

A speech by the union's engi- in April swung a vote to settle end and an over- industry. The en- also put an- man consider claim for next ye- The conference support the Leh- troversal propos- ing nationalizat- ment interveni- industry.

Labour 'must not take TUC for granted'

By Ronald Kershaw Northern Industrial Correspondent. A call for unity in the trade union movement and a warning that the Labour Government must not take for granted the support of the TUC came from Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, at Manchester on Saturday.

Mr Murray told 3,000 Yorkshire miners at the annual demonstration that the trade union movement has received an unequivocal assurance from Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, that Parliament would not rise for the summer recess until the Industrial Relations Act was dead and buried. That must be a top priority.

"The Industrial Relations Act is on its way out and voluntary collective bargaining is on its way in, but collective bargain-

ing by itself cannot and never will solve all our problems. We need more. We need actions to deal with the extremes in wealth and poverty in this country," he said.

Winter pensions were not the end of the road. They were the beginning of a square deal for old-age pensioners. The Labour Government in its first 100 days had provided more action and less talk than its predecessor, but there was more to be done.

Mr Lawrence Daly, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, said the main topics discussed at the union's annual conference next month would be the reduction of the working week, the retirement age, improvement in pensions and other questions, in the light of the interim report on the mining industry to be published tomorrow.

Referring to the social contract, Mr Daly said working it

out was difficult. Implementing it would be even more difficult. "We are only going to be able to put it into practice providing it is constitutionally based and grounded on socialist principles."

Mr Daly criticized an editorial in The Times on Friday. He said: "One of the most prominent national newspapers in Britain had an editorial about the wages problems of the miners in which it attacked the Scottish area of the NUM."

"Although it said hopefully that the Scottish area resolution would not necessarily be endorsed by our national conference, let me tell William Rees-Mogg (Editor of The Times) that the Scottish area resolution is not even on the agenda of our national conference. Yorkshire has a wages resolution, so has Nottinghamshire, Northumberland, Lancashire and Cumberland."

Limit reports on rape, MP says

Mr Paul Rose, Labour MP for Manchester, Blithley, is to ask the Attorney General in the Commons this week to limit the powers which would permit alleged victims of rape and other sexual offences to give evidence anonymously.

The law would limit newspaper reports naming the offence, the verdict and the sentence.

Red Arrows to stage 30 shows

The RAF's Red Arrows aerobatic team is to start a season of 30 displays on August 1, three months later than usual. Because of the oil crisis, training is four months behind schedule.

To help the team to meet the deadline, the RAF has re-appointed its leader Squadron Leader Ian Dick, who retired from the team at the end of last year. He replaces Squadron Leader Peter Squire.

Flixborough inquiry

An official inquiry into the cause of the Flixborough disaster opens at Scunthorpe tomorrow. It was set up by trade unions and will be conducted by a university lecturer, Mr Victor Marshall.

Parachutist injured

Four parachutists giving a display at Redditch Rugby and Cricket Club, Worcestershire, were blown off course and landed well away from the target area. One, Mr Peter Denley, broke a leg.

Pilot escapes in crash

A single-engine turboprop aircraft crashed at Little Snoring, Norfolk. The pilot, Mr Kenneth Walton, aged 26, sprained an ankle. The aircraft was wrecked.

Weather forecast and recordings



NOON TODAY Pressure in millions of hPa. FRONTS (solid line with triangles) and occluding (solid line with semicircles) systems.

Today: Sun rises: 4.43 am, 5.20 pm. Moon rises: 2.20 am, 6.23 pm. New Moon: June 20. Lightening: 9.50 pm to 4.13 am. High Water: London Bridge, 12.2 pm, 6.30 pm (20.7ft); Avonmouth, 5.12 am (18.5ft); 5.41 pm (18.2ft); Dover, 9.25 am (18.5ft); 9.44 pm (5.9m (19.3ft)). Hull, 4.20 am (6.2m (20.2ft)); 4.35 pm (6.4m (20.9ft)). Liverpool, 9.23 am (7.6m (25.0ft)); 9.55 pm (7.8m (25.5ft)).

East Anglia, E England: Cloudy, rain outbreaks with thunder; wind SE, light; max temp 19°C (66°F); cooler on coast.

W Midlands, S Wales, SW England, Channel Isles: Rather cloudy, showers or longer rain becoming brighter and mainly dry; wind variable, light, becoming NW moderate; max temp 17°C (63°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Mainly dry with sunny spells, but NW may have rain on Wednesday. Temp near or rather above normal.

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind R. Light; sea smooth. Strait of Dover: Wind variable, becoming W, light or moderate; sea slight.

English Channel (E): Wind W, light or moderate; sea slight.

Forecasts for 5 am to midnight: London, SE central N. Central S. Eastland, E Midlands: Rather cloudy, thundery rain outbreaks, perhaps clearer later; wind S or variable, light; max temp 19°C (66°F).

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MONDAY: A table with columns for location, temperature, wind, and rain.

At the resort

24 hours to 5 pm Sun 24. Bar, mean sea level, 10.5m (34.5ft).

YESTERDAY: London: Temp: 22°C (72°F); 7 am, 13°C (55°F); 71 per cent. Rain none. Sun, 24 hr Bar, mean sea level, 10.5m (34.5ft); 1,000 millibars.

At the resort: 24 hours to 5 pm Sun 24. Bar, mean sea level, 10.5m (34.5ft).

E COAST: Southampton 22.2, 11.5. Brighton 22.2, 11.5. Manchester 22.2, 11.5.

S COAST: Brighton 22.2, 11.5. Bournemouth 22.2, 11.5. Exeter 22.2, 11.5. Plymouth 22.2, 11.5.

W COAST: Manchester 22.2, 11.5. Liverpool 22.2, 11.5. Cardiff 22.2, 11.5.

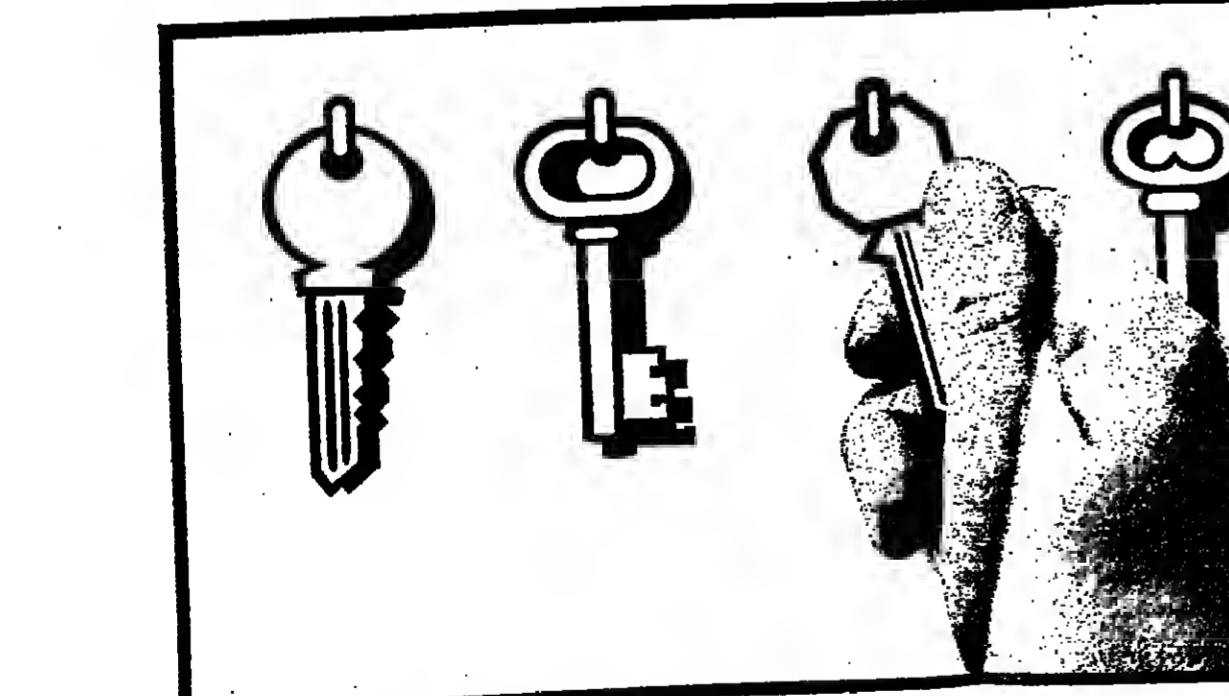
London: Temp: 22°C (72°F); 7 am, 13°C (55°F); 71 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, 5.3 per cent.

Manchester: Temp: 22°C (72°F); 7 am, 13°C (55°F); 71 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, 5.3 per cent.

Birmingham: Temp: 22°C (72°F); 7 am, 13°C (55°F); 71 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, 5.3 per cent.

Cardiff: Temp: 22°C (72°F); 7 am, 13°C (55°F); 71 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, 5.3 per cent.

Property management Professionalism is the key



The key to good urban Estate Management is the use of a professional team. When you use the Knight Frank & Rutley team you can be sure that your properties will be managed efficiently and that you will have expert advice on valuation, property maintenance or improvement, town planning, and rating. Thus every property is kept under continual review in order that its true potential is maximized at all times. It is all part of the Knight Frank & Rutley service.

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dit over likely to ministers

Spouting of revolt expe

mination

ME NEWS

idents' shift over
cists' unlikely to
back ministers

Devlin
N Correspondent
on an appearance at
meetings by some gov-
ministers is likely to
in spite of a new motion
ism carried at the con-
in London on Saturday.
National Union of
tion reaffirmed the
that "fascists" and
should not be allowed
a university and col-
forms, a decision taken
annual conference in
last April.
tion also contained new
to individual unions on
arry out the principle
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to prevent any mem-
ber organizations from
is known to espouse
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action).
new clauses which
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of principle student
uld not allow plat-
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erence relations. Col-
ions should refuse re-
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ganized, they should be
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Conference condemns
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s, and counter-produc-
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tuted democratically decided



Contestants in the veterans race held every three years by the Cyclists' Touring Club pedalling along their hundred-mile route near Bayford, Hertfordshire, yesterday. More than 300 men aged over 50 and women over 40 took part in five regional races.

Deposit proposed to ensure
old cars are scrapped

To ensure that when a car's useful life is finished it is handed over for "recycling", registration fees for private vehicles should include a refundable deposit of about £50.
That is one of the radical recommendations on road and rail traffic from a report, published yesterday, by an independent commission on transport. The commission was set up by the Bishop Suffragan of Kingston upon Thames, the Right Rev Hugh Montefiore.
Its report also calls for most road-building in towns to be stopped until new management policies have been put into operation and present investment proposals reviewed. The commission adds that the embargo should not apply to roads forming part of new urban develop-

Union seeks
London
ambulance
inquiry

By Our Labour Staff
The Confederation of Health Service Employees has written to its five sponsored MPs and to Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, calling for an inquiry into alleged delays between calls being received at ambulance control at Waterloo and being passed to ambulance crews.
The charges come from ambulance crews who are members of the union. They say there are often unacceptably long delays between calls being received at ambulance control at Waterloo and being passed to ambulance crews.
Members of the Park Royal ambulance branch of COHSE in North-west London have compiled evidence to back their complaints. It includes LA4s, the pink forms handed to ambulance crews when they are given a call.
Some of the forms show delays of up to an hour between the call being received at control and being passed to an ambulance. One shows a call timed at control at 9.40 am, timed as being received at the ambulance station at 10.23 am. The patient was unconscious and the crew's remarks at the bottom of the sheet are: "This patient was nearly dead when arriving at hospital."
Another sheet gives the time a call was received at control as 11.47 am, and at the station as 1.34 pm. The patient was a girl aged four, who had pneumonia. The crew's remarks are: "One hour 53 minutes delay."
Some of the forms are old, because after showing their dossier to representatives of the ambulance authority about 18 months ago, the practice of putting the time a call was received at control at the top of each form handed to a crew was stopped.
The men blame the system rather than the individuals who run it. Control of the London ambulance service was centralized at a new headquarters in Waterloo about 18 months ago. Before then it was split among five area controls.
The crews claim that it is impossible for coordinators working from Waterloo to have detailed local knowledge of the whole of London, and as a result they often send the wrong ambulances to calls, ignoring nearer available vehicles.
No comment was available from the London ambulance service yesterday.

MP calls for inquiry
into demonstrations

By Martin Huckerby
An inquiry into the events leading to the death of a student and into the conduct of the police at demonstrations in London on Saturday was called for yesterday by Mr Sydney Bidwell, Labour MP for Ealing, Southall. Mr Bidwell is chairman of the London area council of Liberation, and took part himself in the counter-demonstration it organized against the National Front.
A similar call was made by Mr John Randall, president of the National Union of students.
Mr Arthur Latham, Labour MP for City of Westminster, Paddington will try to ask a private notice question of the Home Secretary in the Commons today. He is particularly concerned about reports that some of the National Front marchers were wearing paramilitary uniforms such as black shirts.
Several demonstrators who were at Red Lion Square on Saturday have accused the police of brutality. They include Mr Brian Heron, of the International Marxist Group, who said yesterday: "We did not start the trouble. It was the police, wading in beating people over the head with their truncheons, that started it all."
Mr Heron admitted, however, that the counter-demonstrators had wanted to prevent National Front supporters from entering Conway Hall "and our supporters moved forward with arms linked. There was the usual pushing and shoving against the police, but no violence on our side."
The police officer in charge at Red Lion Square, Mr John Gerrard, deputy assistant commissioner, yesterday was assessing reports from senior officers who were on duty at the demonstration. Sir Robert Mark, the Commissioner, is expected to send a report to Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary.
Mr Gerrard said on Saturday after the fighting that a shout, "obviously a prearranged signal", had gone up and then the violence had started. Mr Heron yesterday said that was "absolutely ludicrous".
Mr Steven Hart, general secretary of Liberation, said that when

Trust urges
safeguard
for accused
employees

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent
The possibility of introducing legislation or retaining sections of the Industrial Relations Act to safeguard the jobs of accused people was raised by the Apex Trust in a report yesterday.
The trust, an employment agency for former prisoners, which is backed by the Home Office, said that employers who dismissed a man when he was charged with an offence, before he was proved guilty or innocent, should in a case heavily censured by the courts.
Employers should be educated to feel that it was their duty to keep the man's job available, as one way of minimizing the disastrous effect a charge could have, the report suggested.
The trust was commenting on the report of the working party on bail procedures in magistrates' courts. The courts had to do more to help a defendant to maintain his position in the community, it believed.

Yard detective
suspended
pending inquiry

By Clive Borrell
Det Chief Supt William Moody, one of Scotland Yard's most experienced detectives, has been suspended from duty on full pay pending the outcome of an investigation involving between thirty and forty police officers.
Five other CID officers were recently suspended in connexion with the same investigation, which began after the arrest and conviction of Mr James Humphreys, a former West End strip club owner.
Mr Moody was the detective in charge of an investigation of bribery and corruption two years ago, when charges were brought against an inspector and a sergeant after two staff reporters of The Times had tape-recorded conversations the officers had with an informer. The two officers were sent to prison for periods of seven and six years.

Brief
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o resign

c Begbie is to remain
of the Open University
Association. His letter
nation, submitted in
s been withdrawn.
this resigned when the
n's national council
against circulating his
for a new constitution;
eting on Saturday the
erced its decision.

Pay proposed for
women who
are 'trapped'

The National Council for the Single Woman and her Dependents says that women, some of them "trapped" at a young age, who give up hopes of marriage and a career to look after elderly parents should be paid for doing it.
The council suggests, in a report published yesterday, that the pay should be £7.35 a week, the equivalent of the present flat-rate unemployment benefit.

Sprouting of committees and pedants'
revolt expected over road signs

Regional report
Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff
Wales being what it is, the progress towards bilingual road signs, agreed by the Government, will not be made without argument, perhaps a lost temper or two, and a sprouting of committees.
The transition means that signs pointing to Cardiff will carry the Welsh name, Caerdydd, as well; the road to Swansea will be marked Aber-tawe.
With well established names like those, progress should be simple enough. But in other areas difficulties of orthography and pronunciation are bound to be revolts among pedants. There is sure to be at least one councillor who will wring his hands in public, worrying what the English will think of it all, as if Englishmen give a straw what Welshmen do with the names.
The first committee has been set up and will advise the Government on correct name forms to be adopted. It should be said at once that bilingual signing will not involve most of the place names of Wales: At least three-fifths of towns and villages have only one name, a Welsh one. A small number have only an English name, such as Saundersfoot and Cross Keys, and no one proposes inventing Welsh names for them.
Many places, however, have Welsh names which have been corrupted and given an English spelling. For these there is a case, in the interests of common sense and convenience, for reaching agreement on one Welsh form. In most cases this

RAF team wins

An RAF team won the national helicopter championship at Hickstead, Sussex, yesterday. An army team was second, and a navy team third.

BBC TV shows disrupted

By a Staff Reporter
Four BBC television programmes could not be recorded yesterday because of a strike by production assistants over a re-grading claim.
The programmes, which were not due to be transmitted for some time, were two plays and two light entertainment programmes, one the first in a new Ronnie Barker series.
A review committee has been set up in the hope of resolving the assistants' grievances, about conditions, service and overtime work. It will report in October.
"We recognize that changes are needed," the BBC said yesterday.
Other programmes will be affected, but without any immediate effect on those now being screened.

Father charged
with arson

Edward Baker, aged 29, unemployed, is to appear before magistrates at Swansea today charged with arson, which resulted in the death of his son.
The charge arises from a fire at a council house in Townhill Road, Swansea, on Saturday in which two children, Terence Baker, aged eight, and Deborah Baker, aged six, died.

Union officers

Officers for the Oxford
Robert McDonagh,
ok, president; Ruth
of St Hugh's, librarian;
Williams, of Queen's,
Victor van Ameron-
Magdalen, secretary.

ide preserves

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the verges.

Knott dropped

an Knott, aged 52, has
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service at Crewe has
sed by British Rail as
omy measure.

cial discrimination in factories criticized

Evans
Affairs Correspondent
ce by employers and
unions generally to act
racial discrimination is
d in a report by Political
conomic Planning, pub-
today. An investigation
plants showed that more
if practised some form
imioation. It often arose
of a lack of awareness
derstanding of the law
managers, and reluc-
tance up to the implica-
their actions.
report is based on a
of nearly 300 plants,
studies of a smaller
and interviews at head
of large companies,
lized industries and
inons. It is the first of a
nt PEP reports on racial
intage.
workers from the
ity groups (74 per cent)
ncreased in only 28 per
of plants. Even though
where few immigrants
were excluded from the
more than a fifth of the
surveyed employed
from the racial minor-
ity groups.
Resistance from white work-
ers to the employment of
minorities is not very com-
mon, and when it does occur it tends
to die down quickly. At only 12
per cent of plants had there
been long-standing opposition
to the report shows. Among plants
employing minority workers the
overwhelming majority of
stoppages were not related to
race. Friction between different
minority groups rarely caused
difficulties.
The TUC has called for action
from its members to remove
causes of friction between the
races and to prevent exploita-
tion. But the study could find
little evidence of open discus-
sions with management on the
issue, either at plant or at
national level.
The case studies produced
examples of situations where
unions had allowed discrimina-
tory practices to develop and
had actually encouraged dis-
crimination. In some cases indi-
vidual officials took up the
causes of minority workers, but
the whole unions are failing to
represent them adequately,
the report says.
Unions have done little to
induct their new members into
the purposes and practices of

It's the Government's
intention to encourage
good pension schemes.
It's our intention to
help you provide them.

"I wish to make it plain that we are in favour of and wish to encourage the development of good occupational pension schemes which are highly valued by the people in them."
That's what the Secretary of State for Social Services said in the Commons recently.
The cancellation of the planned State Reserve Scheme makes good company pensions even more vital.
Employees have every right to a good scheme that gives them financial security in retirement.
And the companies already operating such schemes are finding that the advantages can often offset the costs.
If you haven't finally decided on your scheme, we can give you the help we've already given many other progressive businesses.
As one of Britain's largest insurance companies, we can provide a tailor-made GRE plan that's right for you—whether you've ten employees or ten thousand.
So have a word with your broker or local GRE branch.
Head Office: Royal Exchange, London EC3P 3DN.
Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance
A good name to trust your pensions to.

WEST EUROPE

Christian Democrats' power image smudged as Italy seeks a stable government

From Peter Nichols Rome, June 16 The four coalition parties will meet on Tuesday what is proudly, if somewhat too grandly, called a summit conference, in an attempt to meet President Leone's plea for them to sink their differences in the national interest and continue to provide a troubled country with a government.

people—have been so closely watched as possible straws in what may be a political wind of change. Voting began today and ends tomorrow, and results should be known tomorrow night.

The issue at the national level, on which Sardinia may throw some light, is the future political role of the Christian Democrats.

Bonn Foreign Minister sees Mr Callaghan

By Our Diplomatic Staff Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, West German Foreign Minister, flew to London on Saturday for a three-day meeting with Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, at his official country residence at Dorneywood.

England and Wales win through to chess final

Nice, June 16—England and Wales have both surprised their supporters by winning places among the group A finalists for the twenty-first World Chess Olympiad.

did not score one point, then Canada would qualify. At adjournment, Lombana of Panama appeared to have an easy win over Pisserski of Canada.

France rejects consultation move in Atlantic charter

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, June 16 France will not agree to the insertion in the new Atlantic charter of any clause on an automatic obligation of the United States before taking decisions.

to be formally signed in Brussels on June 26 when President Nixon meets heads of government.

Luxembourg coalition takes over

Luxembourg, June 16—The new centre-left Government of Luxembourg will take over on Tuesday after 55 years of Christian Democrat rule, informed sources said today.

Europe seeks US arms purchases

From Roger Berthoud Brussels, June 16 Europe's desire to be treated more as an equal partner by America has found a new field for practical expression; the procurement of arms and military equipment.

better cooperation between Europe and North America in the production and procurement of defence equipment and could work in that direction.

Fire kills four children

Mez, June 16—Four children and their grandmother died when a house in a mining village in the north-east caught fire today—Agence France-Press.

French nuclear tests wait on Pacific weather

From Charles Hargrove Paris, June 16 In spite of official secrecy, there are indications that the start of this year's series of French nuclear tests in the Pacific is being held up.

test zone, but, contrary to last year, the warning to aircraft did not follow immediately.

Sweden sees last of its Princesses wed

Stockholm, June 16—Princess Christina of Sweden, the sister of King Carl Gustav, was married here yesterday to her sweetheart from teenage days, Mr Tord Magnusson, a businessman.

OVERSEAS

Tension in Peking over poster attack

From David Bonavia Peking, June 16 The political temperature in Peking rose tonight as agitated crowds gathered to read posters attacking a member of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party.

The attack, directed against Mr Hua Kuo-feng, head of the party organization in Hunan province, was contained in nearly 20 large posters which appeared today in the centre of the city.

Mr Hua, named as a full member of the Politburo at last year's party congress, has recently been active in Peking in the reception of foreign dignitaries.

Mr Nixon wins full support of King Faisal

President Nixon with Mrs Golda Meir, former Prime Minister of Israel, when he visited her in Jerusalem yesterday.

Continued from page 1 It was also agreed that a senior Syrian official would visit Washington soon to discuss in depth plans for future relations.

Mr Savory resigns from the Rhodesia Party

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, June 16 Mr Allan Savory, the controversial former leader of the Rhodesia Party, has resigned from the party.

leading the RP he was under constant criticism for his alleged dictatorial attitude and refusal to comply with party executive decisions.

Protest by Athens over Turkish oil research

From Our Correspondent Athens, June 16 Greece has lodged a protest against Turkey's plans to carry out research in the Aegean continental shelf for the declared purpose of discovering off-shore oil deposits.

The Greek challenge came just as the Turkish oceanographic research ship Candarli was sailing south on its second survey mission this month.

TUC is criticized for policy on S Africa

From Our Correspondent Geneva, June 16 The policy of the Trades Union Congress on South Africa came in for some criticism today at a meeting of more than 50 union leaders from 25 Commonwealth and African countries.

their residence they are becoming aware of the power of Mr Plu prepared address.

Defence chief says na ready for any challenge

Johannesburg, June 16—South Africa is ready to meet any challenge which may come from Mozambique and Angola, the chief of the defence forces said tonight.

He spoke of a threat to South African security from guerrilla forces on its borders who were active in the two countries.

Namibian militants fo

Windhoek, June 16—Two leading members of the militant South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) go on trial here tomorrow on charges of attempted incitement to murder and public violence.

The court case is a sequel to a police swoop on Swapo followers, the most articulate of the black anti-apartheid dissident groups in South-West Africa (Namibia), which is ruled by South Africa.

US to supply 80 planes to Greece

From Mario Modiano Athens, June 16 Greece signed on Friday a contract for the purchase of some 80 American aircraft, the second large arms deal in 24 hours.

The two agreements were part of an ambitious programme for the complete renovation of the Greek arsenal. They coincided with a press campaign to induce wealthy Greeks to contribute to national defence.

Mr Lee arrives for talks on Singapore forces

By Our Diplomatic Staff Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore, arrived in London yesterday for a four-day visit during which he will have talks with Mr Wilson over possible British plans to withdraw forces from Singapore.

changed slightly in the past month by Malaysia's recognition of the Chinese Government in Peking and the consequent severing of all but trade ties with Taiwan.



ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning, use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN, 240 1911. The Royal Opera House. ... THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE ...

THEATRES

ACT ONE, W. 74 207. Two men, one ... THEATRE ...

THEATRES

ACT ONE, W. 74 207. Two men, one ... THEATRE ...

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ACT ONE, W. 74 207. Two men, one ... THEATRE ...

THEATRES

ROYALTY, 200 SOUL, Avenue 8.30 ... THEATRE ...

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THE ARTS

Best of bad ballet

Spartacus Coliseum

John Percival

I do not think that Yuri Grigorovich's Spartacus is really a very good ballet, but it is certainly one of the best bad ballets ever staged.

William Mann

Most creative artists are egocentric, and Richard Strauss is exceptionally so.

ART EXHIBITIONS

COLNAGHI'S 14 Old Bond St., W.1. Old Master Paintings ...

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Secrets of Soviet intelligence

KGB

By John Barron

The secret work of Soviet intelligence agents is a story of intrigue and espionage.

Open Air Theatre

The Open Air Theatre breaks new ground with a special season.

Toronto Dance

The Toronto Dance Theatre opens its second London season.

RPO venture

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has been chosen as the orchestra for the new season.

Double programme

London Chorale Queen Elizabeth Hall

Thomas Walker

Most conductors would consider Rossini's two rarely heard Petite messe Solennelle a full evening's music.

Joan Chissell

Thanks to the gramophone and some splendid performances on disc, Schumann's symphonies are no longer considered bad box office.

Le Vie Parisien

Phoenix Opera's production of Offenbach's La Vie Parisienne is a new production.

Elisabeth Söderström and Marco Bakker

Egocentric Strauss

Intermezzo Glyndebourne

William Mann

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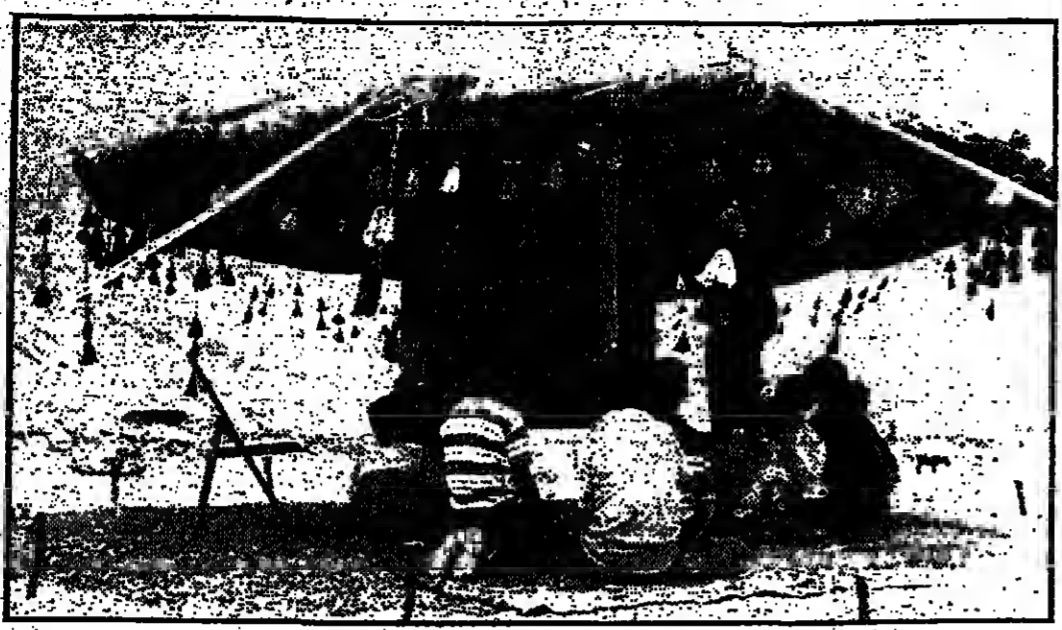
COLNAGHI'S 14 Old Bond St., W.1. Old Master Paintings ...

ART EXHIBITIONS

COLNAGHI'S 14 Old Bond St., W.1. Old Master Paintings ...

The future looks more settled for the world's wanderers

Now looks as though a large number of the nomads of West Africa and Ethiopia are facing a more settled future...



Government policy towards the nomads changed with the accession of the present Shah. Tribal schools were started in 1926 under a dynamic and rather paternalistic minor khan...

The poverty and loneliness endured by single women who stay at home to care for elderly parents is often severe. Sadly, women without such ties have so far reserved their demonstrations for more emotive groups.

Two sides of 'three Marias'

Maria Velho de Costa is slightly ashamed of the world-wide publicity given to the case of Portugal's 'three Marias'. She says there are many other Portuguese writers who not only had their books banned but were themselves imprisoned...



The 'three Marias', from the left, Barreno, Horta and da Costa.

'Irrational, dramatic, pungent' and 'a real work of art.' It is now on sale again in Portugal and selling as fast as the book which inspired the Portuguese revolution...

Investment in farming increasing

The most interesting development in British agriculture in the past decade has been the growth of investment money into forestry management...

Agri-culture Leonard Amey The position is similar in upland areas of Scotland, but with the advantage that farms tend to be larger and also to have acceptance of company farming...

PROPERTY also on pages 21, 22 & 23

Real estate listings including: COUNTRY PROPERTIES, LONDON FLATS, BELGRAVIA, RUTLAND, LEICS, and various other property descriptions with contact information.

Parliamentary diary MONDAY, JUNE 10: Rest Bill read second time. Merchant Shipping and Damages at Sea Bill...

Parliamentary notices House of Lords Today at 2.30: Mervyn Connors and Geoffrey Howe...

YOUR NEXT JOB, MISS TIMES might be waiting in the Women's Appointments section today. pages 11 and 24

BUSINESS NOTICES
TELLA FISHER TODAY
Interview the type of office staff you hope to recruit, from boys in their teens to "A" level people, juniors and graduates.

STELLA FISHER BUREAU,
110/111 Strand, W.C.2. 01-836 6644.
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VILLAGE POST OFFICE/GENERAL STORES
Cover the in demand Gloucestershire village in family ownership...

INVESTOR
to take up ownership in business. Capital available...

FACTS AND TENDERS
shire County Council
UNITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

ENGINEERING CO. Central Scotland. Modern Machinery, own property.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL
GUAYAQUIL & QUITO RAILWAY
FIRST MORTGAGE ASSURED

REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR 4% (1974)
The Council of Foreign Bondholders of the Republic of Ecuador...

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS
CRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA
istry of Public Works and Building Directorate for Infrastructure

Invitation to Tender
finance provided by a loan sanctioned by the Inter-Continental Bank for Reconstruction and Development...

Invitation to Tender
intended to purchase spare parts and components existing fleet of vehicles of the Ministry of Public and Building.

onsieur le Sous-Directeur des Matériels
rection de l'Infrastructure.
insistère des Travaux Publics et de la Construction,
15, rue Didouche Mourad,
Alger.

onsieur le Directeur du Parc Central du Matériel du
insistère des Travaux Publics et de la Construction,
15, rue Didouche Mourad,
Alger.

DIVIDEND NOTICES
THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE
In the High Court of Justice...

LEGAL NOTICES
NOTICE OF BY-ELECTION
GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL
For further information please contact...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00122 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00149 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00130 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00130 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00130 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00130 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 00130 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE...

Women's Appointments also on page 24
PERSONNEL ASSISTANT
FOR EXPANDING YOUNG RETAIL CHEMIST GROUP
The right girl will be intelligent, enthusiastic and possess absolute discretion...

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10 FEMALE INTERPRETERS
required for international convention to be held in London
for two weeks during November. Successful applicants will speak two or more languages and will stay in a London hotel for the two-week period.

STELLA FISHER IN THE STRAND
THE NON-COMMERCIAL SET sometimes draw a blank.
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abroad. Many out of school hours...

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS GENERAL
LONDON'S MOST EXCLUSIVE
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Sales Staff to match
When our jewellery salon opens in Knightsbridge in September, we need Sales Staff capable of handling our exclusive clientele...

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YOUNG BILINGUAL SECRETARY
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Surveyors, interesting and varied
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Michael Head
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Rough justice for dissidents in Israel's occupied territories

Is this the way to peace between Jew and Arab?

The Israeli occupation of Sinai, Golan and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip has just completed its seventh year. Some still call it a "benevolent" occupation, "the most liberal occupation in history". It is a curious form of "liberalism" with hundreds of new prisoners in the past few months crammed into Israeli jails in addition to the thousands already there for several years.

Hundreds of my clients are in jail for being chosen these days for resisting occupation. For giving any form of help to a person suspected of occupation activity—sometimes even for giving a glass of water to a suspected son, brother or sister—the military courts impose prison sentences. According to one particularly harsh law, any person who suspects that another person intends or is about to commit an offence against the military laws in force in the occupied territories, and who does not prevent him from doing so or inform the authorities at once, is himself guilty of an offence punishable by up to five years imprisonment or a fine of about £1,000.

Many of my clients who were charged with this offence were brothers, fathers, sisters or even mothers of suspected persons and would rather go to jail than inform on their own kin. The number of houses destroyed during the years of occupation has reached about 18,000. House destruction is a form of collective punishment against whole families. One member of the family may be suspected of sabotage or of aiding saboteurs, or arms may be found in or near the house. The other members of the family, including women and small children, who know absolutely nothing about the alleged crime, are made the victims. They are given one or two hours' grace to remove their belongings, and the house is blown up. In practice there is no time to appeal to the court (although this law, however draconian it is, does in theory allow such an appeal) or to any other body. The house is destroyed before any judicial procedure.

Dozens of my clients were deported to the East Bank of Jordan; they were taken directly from jail or from their homes without the possibility of appeal to any court of law. The deportations are carried out across the desert, in Wadi 'Arahah, where the deportees are faced with the choice: either try to go back and be shot by the Israeli soldiers, or go forward towards the patrols of the Jordanian army, who often shoot at the deportees, mistaking them for enemy troops. Administrative internment—under the 1945 Defence (Emergency) Regulations—has been widely used. This is deten-

tion without trial, which the authorities may impose without explanation and without having to justify it in any court. Some people were interned for years under these regulations. During 1970-71, the number of internees declined sharply, following anti-internment strikes in the prisons and manifestations of solidarity by progressive Israeli circles. Now, after the October war, internment has been brought back to life; hundreds of people are again thrown into jail without trial or charge. People who have been sentenced by the courts are interned immediately after completing their sentence. Thus, for example, Zoubair 'Amira of Nablus was due to be released two months ago, after completing a two-year sentence, but instead of this he was served with an internment order for one year. No reason was given.

But the most painful problem is that of the violence, beatings and torture to which suspects are subjected during interrogation by members of the Shin Bet (Israeli security service). During the years of my practice I saw more than once marks of beating on the faces and bodies of my clients. There is hardly a trial whose records do not contain a testimony to which the accused complains of beatings and/or torture. I have made hundreds of complaints on this matter to the competent authorities, but their reply is invariably: "Your complaint is unfounded."

My demands that my complaints be investigated by some independent body—a Knesset committee of inquiry, a public commission or any other appropriate body—have been rejected. Indeed, when I complain against the interrogators, it is the police who examine my complaint against them; they investigate it and are their own judges. The recent agreement with Syria on separation of forces has raised people's hopes for peace. But in contrast to these hopes, oppression continues. Here is just one illustration, out of many. One of my clients, Mohammed Salaman Otowan, aged about 56, was arrested on April 23, without specific charge but because he had let a room in his house to someone suspected of being a communist. Thirty days later he was released. No charges were brought. He was called again for questioning on June 2. Next day he

Job discrimination may mean more power for Race Board

An increase in the powers of the Race Relations Board is now possible. The case for their extension is implicit in the findings of the report "Racial Disadvantage in Employment" published today by PEP (Political and Economic Planning). It is apparent that the present powers of the board have failed to remove racial discrimination in employment. There is widespread complaint among employers and unions. Even in firms which have agreed to curb discrimination it has too seldom been effective. The way is now clear for history to be repeated, should Mr Roy Jenkins, the Home Secretary, so wish, and he seems sympathetic to the general idea. Momentum for the "Race Relations Act," which extended the board's powers to housing and employment, came in Mr Jenkins' previous spell as Home Secretary. Evidence from an earlier PEP report "Racial Discrimination in Employment" provided facts on which to base action.

Of course, the proposal for any extension of the board's powers will have to be politically wrapped. Lord Harris has, John in particular, already promised a thorough review of the effectiveness of the Race Relations Act and that the Government will introduce proposals for action. The report says a press notice about it demonstrates that racial prejudices can be overcome (if not removed) more easily than at first appears if a situation is created in which it is not socially acceptable to act on them. Most important, it places the problem in perspective by showing that the industrial difficulties that arise from race relations are less frequent and serious than is commonly supposed. The study, which is independent, was initiated long before the Labour Government came to office. But the timing of other events to coincide with it discloses the build up of subtle, behind-the-scenes political lobbying that bears a remarkable similarity to what happened before the 1968 Act. Two key figures are Lord Brockway and Mr Anthony Lester, a barrister who was at the centre of the skillful campaign in the mid-1960s. One of the lessons learnt in the pre-1968 moves was that the need for an extension of the Board's powers, being controversial, has to be clearly established. One way of doing this is to bring in a private Bill to force the Government's hand. On April 4, Lord Brockway, an old campaigner in this field, presented a Bill to the House of Lords for a second reading, seeking to increase the Board's powers of investigation.

Felicia Langer The author is a member of the central committee of Rakah (Hebrew "New Communist Party"). © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1974

Why ITV men have little to smile about

As the election results came in, there were few gloomier faces in British boardrooms than those of the directors of the television companies. They had every reason to be depressed. Lord Annan, who is considered to be neither sympathetic to our knowledgeable about television, has been resurrected in order to continue his inquiries into broadcasting, otherwise known as what much is already known, but little is ever done. The fourth channel, which the companies believed to be in their grasp (Sir John Eden wanted them to have it, but the Cabinet was otherwise engaged), has been snatched from them, to be given, the companies fear, to Mr Phillip Whitehead. Almost as bad is the prospect of rapidly falling profits following upon the companies' most successful year. Independent television has always found it hard to find allies. Conservatives, who might have been expected to be sympathetic, soon lost interest. They neither watched the box, nor approved of its practitioners. Labour, on the other hand, has clung to its prejudices, despite bitter and frequent quarrels with the BBC. In consequence, the politicians have put themselves in charge (Lord Hill, Lord Aylestone) or have enlisted pedagogues (Mr Brian Young, Sir Michael Swann) to keep the form in order. The companies want to know who will serve alongside Lord Annan on his committee. Submissions have been discreetly made by them. The key question to be resolved will be: "Should the competitive television service continue to be financed by spot advertising?" The companies believe the balance of argument to be against sponsorship. Nor do they want the fourth channel to be given to a new set of companies which would compete against them for audiences at the expense of programme standards. They will press strongly for a complementary fourth channel, for the logic of a situation in which the BBC retains a two-to-one super-

The public must pay for effective MPs

The rather surprising promise from a new Labour Government "to consider the provision of financial assistance to enable Opposition parties more effectively to fulfil their parliamentary functions" certainly has something to the experience of senior Labour Party spokesmen in Opposition who had the assistance of individuals financed by the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust. In the summer of 1971, the Rowntree Trust offered a number of political fellowships to each of the three main parties at Westminster. The Conservatives declined them, possibly because they felt that a party in government did not need such assistance, possibly because the Rowntree Trust has provided funds for the humanitarian work of a number of liberation movements in Africa. In any event, since re-entering opposition, the Conservative Party has shown new interest in the venture. Over a period of time, the Labour Party accepted five political fellowships. These were allocated to Mr Edward Shea (Deputy Leader), Mr Conroy Crosland (Environment), Mr Denis Healey (Exchequer), Mr Roy Jenkins (Home Affairs), and Mr Merlyn Rees (Northern Ireland). All the individuals concerned have now moved into Whitehall departments as political advisers to their principals. Four Liberal MPs received the same assistance: Mr David Steel, Mr Russell Johnson, Mr John Pardoe and Mr Graham Topp. Each fellowship was awarded after an advertisement followed by an interview with a panel consisting of a representative of the particular parliamentary party, the person to whom the appointment was to be made and a representative of the trust. The fellowships were given for a period of about three years and the basic grant was £2,500 a year. It was always the intention of the Rowntree Trust that the idea should be financed by public funds and before the last general election, notice was given to the parties that the trust would not pay for a further generation of appointments. Of course, there are research and personal assistants in the House of Commons other than those financed by the Rowntree Trust, but few are paid appointments. Most depend on the House of Commons library or party headquarters. Thus it was experience of the Rowntree scheme that contributed to the idea in the Queen's Speech which is



now the subject of examination by Lord Crowther-Hunt's unit in Whitehall. Basically, the choice seems to lie between seconding civil servants to the opposition parties or voting public funds to them. If civil servants are involved, one has in effect a Department of the Opposition. Civil servants may resent this since it removes them from real power and may affect their chances of promotion. Equally, politicians are unlikely to welcome this, because the cut-and-thrust of Opposition politics demands a partisan approach. However, this option may be the nearest way of avoiding certain constitutional niceties. If opposition parties are to be funded, they can be left to engage the number and type of personnel that they prefer within the limits of their grants. Presumably, funds would be allocated in proportion to parliamentary representation. Experience of the Rowntree scheme in particular suggests that the parties would take on people committed to their particular beliefs. One immediate difficulty of this approach is that there

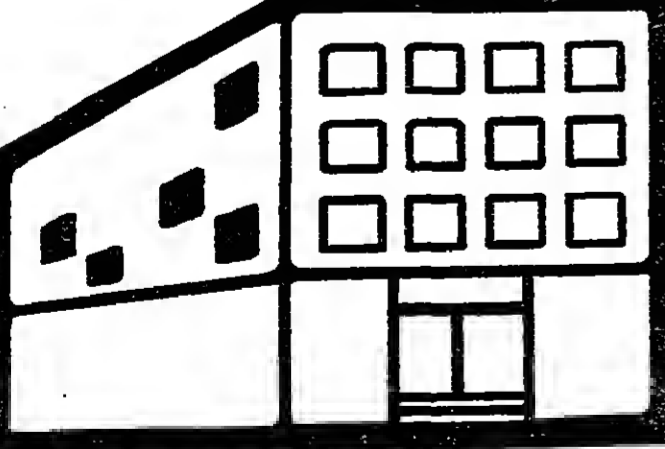
scheme be confined to front bench spokesmen or should active backbenchers be involved? One way of resolving the problem might be to forget ideas of a grant to a party and instead merely provide a research allowance of say £2,000 a year to each individual member of Parliament, whether on the front bench or the back benches and whether a government or opposition MP. An allowance of £300 of the secretarial allowance of £1,000 (itself a ridiculously unrealistic figure) is allowed for research work. Whatever scheme is adopted, one should be conscious of the increased facilities that will be required. Already much of the accommodation of MPs and their secretaries is shocking and the increase in research assistants would seriously add to the strain. An important point is to establish the principles of the scheme. Experience of the Rowntree Fellowships in this country and other schemes in continental countries demonstrates the value of such assistance in providing more active, more informed, and hence more democratic opposition. It is surely right that such an idea should be financed by public funds rather than private organizations. Finally, the use of political characters rather than civil servants seems much the better idea. Once all this is agreed, it remains to decide the size of the funds to be used, the basis of allocating the money, and the form of accountability to the appropriate House of Commons committee. When these broad questions are settled, the other points of detail can be left to the parties and experience. No doubt there will be considerable variation of practice and the scheme should be flexible enough to encourage this and allow change over time. Now that discussion has started on the need to finance parliamentary parties from public funds, we should move on to consider the allied question of financing the organization and research functions of political parties in the country. Britain has obtained democracy on the cheap and it is wish political debate and decision-making to be conducted with authority and independence, then we should be prepared to pay for it. Roger Darlington The author holds a political fellowship awarded by the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust.

will hold a timely press conference to discuss the annual report. If asked, he will disagree that report's findings are in line with his plea for more power for the Board—a plea Carr, when Home Secretary, rejected. Mr Tom Courtenay, the Board's chief officer, advisory group for many days, has expressed gratitude to the Board for its help, encouraging criticism. The Group will meet to discuss the report at a later stage. At Lower Belgrave 5 and PEP, at Upper Street, SW1, have been friendly near a meeting. There is no suggestion that Mr Courtenay has brought any improvement to bear, or that findings are not objected to. Indeed it is an argument that a knowledge and experience of the benefits of the Board is a limited number of experts in this field. Another actor in the events was Mr Max Carr, who was appointed chairman of the Board in 1966 and is man of the Commission.

Ammunition

Less Monday, the lion's own government and homeless young black people that discrimination remains after the 1968 Act. The report was prepared by the Home Secretary, directed by Little, Dr Little is an advisory group. The Commission's result of the fit be referred to the by the Home Secretary. In accordance with the Race Relations Act, the PEP study jointly by the Guild and the Hon. Both reports are done and indicate the result of the fit be referred to the by the Home Secretary. The only question is a far from Jenkins introduce for the Board? It is time before the and in any case sound the alarm. To the ammunition it attack against a power. Priority is anyway, to a Bill discrimination that will parallel the Commission's Board, to be useful in the introduction, wants to keep or that both bodies of a possible E Commission later. Even if he is in the Relations B cannot be certain reports are expected from PEP which, conclusions are like present one, will hand. The real lesson in 1967-68 and happening now is in the skill of politicians. If possible, politicians be blamed if they are more possible politically correct news that they are a chance for a sion, whatever such measures, be steamrollered through. Racial Disadvantage report by David J. £220. Home Affairs

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The Times Diary

Touting for things to think about.

Since the election, Harold Wilson has been asked on a number of occasions by the Commons about Lord Rothschild's Central Policy Review Staff, the Think Tank. His answers have been unhelpful, but their message has been that Rothschild and his band of 16 thinkers continue to think important thoughts, as they have done since Edward Heath established the unit in 1970. On April 2, the Think Tank is doing the normal think-tankery work which it was set up to do under the previous Government. And on April 30 he said it was "carrying out policy analysis for ministers collectively". Who I asked Wilson's press office last week to be more specific they said it was all very hush-hush, but the spokeswoman ventured that the subject they were thinking about was "energy". (I think about that a good deal but I do not get a Government salary for it.) From less formal sources I gather that one recent paper circulated by the CPRS is about The Lump—the controversial method of hiring construction workers. Despite Wilson's assurances that the deep thought goes on, there are signs that the thinkers are finding it hard to keep the tank filled. Rothschild's two advisers for interviews ("touting for work" is, I am assured, too vulgar a way of putting it) but, while meeting no absolute refusal, he has found none too enthusiastic a response. It is not surprising, Wilson has his own private think-tank at 10 Downing Street under Bernard Donoghue, whose activities are even harder to pin down than Rothschild's. "Shorter-term questions mainly of domestic policy" was how Wilson defined Donoghue's field on April 30, though his original brief was supposed to be

The Times Diary

Touting for things to think about.

to think about Scottish and Welsh nationalism. More significant, most ministries have imported at least one Labour Party person who has worked at Transport, House and is there to ensure that crucial matters of policy, dogma takes precedence over thought. Rothschild's team will therefore have to devote much of their thinking to how to get to grips with anything meaty to which they can apply their minds. The latest partisan joke doubling them up in Westminster is that if Anthony Benn makes a ministerial broadcast over his nationalized plane, Harold Wilson will demand a right of reply. On Friday my reporter attended a rehearsal at which much of the material had a modest Monty Python flavour. Alas, he missed a sketch performed by Imogen Hassall, who said of it: "I've never read so much pornography in my life." Germaine Greer, who is listed among the writers, will be in Italy when the show opens. She'll be sending us one-liners", said Fuchs.

Bad taste

On Thursday, at the Gallery, Kings Road, a theatrical group, the Big Lies, will launch, with the aid of some left-wing writers, a political revue called Here Is the News. Sketches, based on newspaper items, will be changed daily. Francis Fuchs, one of the organizers of the News, said he had approached Richard Ingrams, editor of Private Eye, for financial aid. Ingrams was dubious, according to Fuchs, because he thought the News would ape his journal, but Fuchs says this is not the intention. He said the show was not going to be humorous satire but

Colonial news

Following my article last week about the middle-class colonizers of the Isle of Dogs, I have received the following message from Ted Johns, chairman of the Isle of Dogs Action Group: Sir, Last Monday on the Isle of Dogs I sent my wife out for the Daily Mirror and Sporting Life and she returned with the Times and news that she had been told quite aggressively that the newspaper which they would only stock push papers in

Hotting u

Dark green Arr settled around the ment in Washington morning, provided telephons calls to in that exorable c Or what? The police war to reassure people ters, they said, we generating equip- headquarter of States foreign affi- tion, because the burned out. Lik in that over-heat had lost their coc The Oxford lavati rolls on. Followi that New Coli French variety call I am quite by Magdalen using Nancol.

Old jokes

Australians feel slightly edged by my publication of a joke recently illustrating anti-British feelings among New Zealanders. John Hinde of Kingston Vale sums it up when he writes: "It is hurtful to many Australians to see the Kiwis take all the credit for Antipodean anti-Pom feelings." His contribution is about an (apocryphal) restaurant in Melbourne which caters to Melbourne. The menu lists Germans at five dollars, Fijians at seven, Indians at eight and Englishmen at 25. A waiter who asked the head waiter why Englishmen were so expensive was told:



Today's road sign, photographed in distant Tonga by J. V. Alexander of Baywater, is clearly about to obey its own instruction.

Hotting u

Dark green Arr settled around the ment in Washington morning, provided telephons calls to in that exorable c Or what? The police war to reassure people ters, they said, we generating equip- headquarter of States foreign affi- tion, because the burned out. Lik in that over-heat had lost their coc The Oxford lavati rolls on. Followi that New Coli French variety call I am quite by Magdalen using Nancol.



THE UNITED NATIONS PUTS TO SEA

sea-bed and the ocean floor... as well as the rest of the area, are the heritage of mankind... The issue it raises is the centre of the agenda of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference which opens at on Thursday... The scope of the Caracas conference is much wider than matters arising directly from the exploitation of the sea-bed beyond the limits of all types of national maritime jurisdiction... This width of matter makes the United Nations conference on the law of the sea the most ambitious and most important international conference of the kind ever to be held... The international system which is most likely to secure these interests is one which acknowledges the position of coastal states as chief claimants to their waters and as the primary agencies of enforcement... The United Nations conference on the law of the sea is a full-blooded international regime.

DING SOMETHING TO AGREE ABOUT

they said last week that the United States was "ready to negotiate...". It would also avoid the awkward problem of on-site inspection... One of the basic difficulties in all negotiations of this sort is to know whether the Russians really want stability... But nothing is going to make a real impact on the arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union until they can agree on a definition of parity and make arrangements to stabilize it... But the lag was either non-existent or very quickly overcome, and everyone is now a great deal more cautious in assessing agreements of this sort...

Wood

scenario for autumn... The Chief Whip, though by no means the plebeian he purports to be... Hence, the scenario for an autumn general election... The Chief Whip, though by no means the plebeian he purports to be, is appearing positively for a late September or election... Hence, the scenario for an autumn general election... The Chief Whip, though by no means the plebeian he purports to be, is appearing positively for a late September or election... Hence, the scenario for an autumn general election...

Using powers of a modern state

From Mr J. Grimond, Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland... The government has immense power to patronize and penalize... To use the powers of a modern state effectively but without brutality and unfairness certainly requires political skill... The government must rally behind it the majority of the country... The government should get out of a lot of business in which it now dabbles... The government should get out of a lot of business in which it now dabbles... The government should get out of a lot of business in which it now dabbles...

Offpeak piqre

From the Reverend Dr Kenneth Slack... Sir, Your leader on June 15 on electricity tariffs is remarkable both for its inability to comprehend the deep resentment felt by ordinary citizens... The reason, surely, was that the more widely the use of power is spread over the 24 hour period the more economically are the vast expensive power stations used... The offpeak piqre is a full-blooded international regime.

Writers and VAT

From Mr Brian Crozier... Sir, Last year you were kind enough to publish a letter from me in which I mentioned some of the time-consuming absurdities of VAT as it applies to writers, broadcasters, and others in the fee-earning self-employed category... We are not grumbling about having to pay our fair share of tax... We are not grumbling about having to pay our fair share of tax... We are not grumbling about having to pay our fair share of tax...

Nuclear power safety

From Mr K. J. Leeming... Sir, It is inevitable that at some point the Flixborough disaster should be related to the nuclear power safety debate... Safety standards in the British nuclear establishments are second to none and I doubt very much that plants such as Flixborough are designed or installed to the same degree of integrity, high though they may be... Safety standards in the British nuclear establishments are second to none and I doubt very much that plants such as Flixborough are designed or installed to the same degree of integrity, high though they may be...

Police forces outside London

From the Chief Constable of Hampshire... Sir, No one can deny the right (or the duty) of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to bring to public notice his problems arising from the shortage of policemen in London... The major problem is not so much one of recruitment but of wastage... The major problem is not so much one of recruitment but of wastage... The major problem is not so much one of recruitment but of wastage...

Trade with Greece

From Mr Alan Sapper... Sir, Lord Caccia's letter in The Times (June 12) on the question of whether or not such actions by Her Majesty's Government as cancelling a visit by the British Navy to Greece does damage to British export drives and the possibilities of Britain securing foreign loans must be read in the light of several factors... The Greek owners are one of the world's biggest contributors to shipping profits in terms of ship build-

Mr Slater prefers cash

From Mr John Clinton-Hewson... Sir, It's curious to read that Colonel Judd (June 4) deplors Mr Slater's decision to hold cash at the present... In 1972 the press reported again and again that Mr Slater was buying agricultural investment in Sussex... Mr Slater's decision to hold cash at the present... In 1972 the press reported again and again that Mr Slater was buying agricultural investment in Sussex...

Strikers and the law

From Mr P. L. Davies... Sir, In recent correspondence in your columns concerning the Trade Union and Labour Relations Bill Mr Campbell Adamson has suggested that the Bill will render picketing of power stations "entirely lawful"... The Bill does nothing to reverse the recent decision of the House of Lords in Hunt v Broomfield that pickers have no right to stop vehicles in order to try and persuade their occupants of the justice of the cause... The Bill does nothing to reverse the recent decision of the House of Lords in Hunt v Broomfield that pickers have no right to stop vehicles in order to try and persuade their occupants of the justice of the cause...

Court dress

From Mr H. W. Skemp... Sir, My wife, a magistrate, regularly wears trouser suits in court, as do some of her colleagues... Perhaps our judges should cast a critical eye on the gear they themselves wear in court... Perhaps our judges should cast a critical eye on the gear they themselves wear in court... Perhaps our judges should cast a critical eye on the gear they themselves wear in court...

ing contracts, cheap chartering rates and flag-of-convenience facilities... At a time when Greek ships are held in Australia and France while workers there demand the freedom of political prisoners... In 1973 Greece's exports to Britain totalled £46.8m and imports from Britain totalled £99.2m... The Greek owners are one of the world's biggest contributors to shipping profits in terms of ship build-

11 pc growth in Europe's air traffic predicted

West European air traffic is likely to grow at an average of 11 per cent a year between now and 1985, according to a report by the Frost & Sullivan market research company.

The main effect of the increased cost of oil on the growth of air transport and on the demand for new aircraft will be felt only during the next 18 months, the report says. By 1985, the aircraft capacity requirement in west Europe is expected to quadruple.

Air freight volume is estimated to rise at averages of 18 per cent (long haul) and 12 per cent (short and medium haul) a year.

The traffic expansion is expected to stimulate a demand for west European operators in the next decade for about 600 long haul and about 1,200 short and medium haul airliners and freighters. Most will be required from 1979 onwards.

Fast inroads in the market by non-scheduled carriers at the expense of main European airlines are judged to be contained. "Increased fares consequent upon higher fuel costs will hit holiday traffic hardest", the report says, "and non-scheduled operators, which specialize in it, will be in most difficulty".

Heavy cost of borrowing forces hotels to postpone development

By Patricia Tisdall

An increasing number of Britain's large hotel chains are becoming concerned about the effects of general economic conditions on forward bookings. Several companies have cancelled or postponed development and expansion projects because of high interest costs and economic uncertainties.

Included among these is a scheme planned by Allied Breweries' Ind Coope Hotels chain which was expected to cost almost £1m. The project was for an extension which would have made the Grand Hotel in Leicester one of the best equipped in the country.

Announced last February (1973), the scheme would have been the single most costly project of its kind carried out in the 22-year history of Ind

Coope Hotels. The company has now confirmed the project has been postponed because of the cost of finance.

Another multi-million pound project has been suspended by Empire Catering for similar reasons. The company said at the weekend that its estimated £13m hotel budget had been "pigeon holed because of the cost of borrowing".

A survey carried out in the current edition of the trade magazine *Catering Times* reveals that several other schemes are being held in abeyance in current circumstances, including an entertainment complex of four hotels totalling 2,000 rooms scheduled for Blackpool.

A 600-room hotel planned by Commonwealth Holiday Inns of Canada and the Heron Corporation for London's South Bank

has been "put in abeyance" according to the report, and Aviation Property Consultants has deferred plans for a 550-room hotel in Kensington which was scheduled to have opened early in 1976.

One reason for the cutbacks in expansion is hoteliers' uncertainty about further tourist development, especially from the United States. Some of the larger groups are reporting that bookings from American holidaymakers are 50 per cent down on last year.

Hoteliers are also worried about the lateness of reservations for this year.

But the biggest brake on expansion plans appears to be the high cost of borrowing coupled with the difficulties of obtaining finance even at high interest rates.

ICC backs code for international companies

By Melvyn Westlake

A Commission on Multinational Corporations, under the authority of the United Nations and a code of conduct governing the operations of such companies, now looks like receiving the full backing of the International Chamber of Commerce.

In its role as chief spokesman for the multinational company the ICC has responded speedily to the recently published report: *Multinational Enterprises and their Role in Economic Development*, which was issued last week by the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Although the ICC accepts the principal recommendation of the report, it believes that a commission of multinational companies will be unable credibly to discharge its functions without the assistance of members having first hand knowledge of the workings of such companies. It urges that the Commission should include an adequate number of members drawn directly from the ranks of the multinational companies.

The response of the ICC to the report takes the form of a statement prepared by a committee under the chairmanship of M Wilfred Baumgartner, a former French Finance Minister, and has just been adopted by the ICC's governing body.

The statement expresses many reservations about the report, which, it says, "sets out many assumptions and allegations for which no evidence is adduced".

Undue emphasis is also laid on the presumed disadvantages of industrial relations at all levels of management of the part of both sides of industry and this calls for a high quality of leadership on the part of both management and trade unions.

Secondly, managing or supervising management is a process of change here, it says, is far more effective, and not possessed by all that number of trade unionists that would be required for 50 per cent representation on supervisory committees. It has always been very difficult to get a trade unionist on a management course, partly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Management reform: the need for a flexible approach to change

From Mr John Arkell

Sir,—There is, as you say in your cogent leading article today (June 12), a great need for reform of the Companies Act. On one aspect, the worker participation, I wish to stress the kind of stupidity of trying to solve the problem on narrow partisan lines. Change needs to be based on sound organizational principles, together with fairness to the parties concerned.

The "bridge" of an industrial company is its board of directors. On the board's composition will depend the direction the company will take, the quality of its top leadership and the measure of evolution it allows, and whether the thrust, imagination, and creative genius for organization and enterprise that such characteristics the majority of British business will be successful. Damage that, and we shall all be the poorer with less wealth to improve the quality of life for the country as a whole—and indeed developing countries requiring our help.

First, any basic structural change at top level is no substitute for, and might even prove a discouragement to, the long hard haul of cultivating good industrial relations at all levels of management of the part of both sides of industry and this calls for a high quality of leadership on the part of both management and trade unions.

Secondly, managing or supervising management is a process of change here, it says, is far more effective, and not possessed by all that number of trade unionists that would be required for 50 per cent representation on supervisory committees. It has always been very difficult to get a trade unionist on a management course, partly

because he is unable to spare the time. This should be rectified. But I believe many trade union leaders, some of whom I count among my friends, would agree that management needs training and experience no less than trade union leadership. One of the best ways of increasing worker participation would be for management to improve their system of promotion so that boards of directors contained more members who have worked their way up from the shop floor.

Thirdly, a board of directors should be a unified body all carrying the same legal responsibilities. I cannot see how under the Green Paper *The Community and the Company: Reform of Company Law* the supervisory board composed of 50 per cent workers and 50 per cent managers can fail to produce divided responsibility or to frustrate initiative. Nor is it compatible with the traditional collective bargaining role of the unions in this country. The document, even when amended in the form now being considered, does not seem to achieve utilizing the collective of employees as a whole, which is the greater efficiency that we can provide.

By this method participation could be achieved in the form of the individual company, generally speaking, the undoubted need for participation nor of the greater efficiency which can be achieved utilizing the collective of employees as a whole, which is the greater efficiency that we can provide.

JOHN ARKELL, Chairman of Court Institute of Manager Management House, Parker Street, London WC2B 5PT.

great variety of British industry, but that they, through the established broadly based committee for the Government advised by the CBI, the TUC to list a number of principles and an effective worker participation (not confined just to level) to which over period companies are expected to regard. Such companies have to satisfy an authority that progress was being made. I suggest the Government Training Boards closely related to the they serve, contain advice on management and academics are in management are used to the sort of required through the of the levy.

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New offshore group

By Peter Hill

Establishment of a major new Anglo-Norwegian offshore group which plans to undertake complete projects for production and drilling platforms was announced yesterday. It will operate as the Woodall-Duckham Offshore Engineering Division, part of Babcock & Wilcox, and combined with Delta International Inc of the United States

Move to settle Birds Eye strike

Informal talks will be held to try to settle a dispute at the Birds Eye factory at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. A stoppage by 2,000 members of the Transport and General Workers' Union began last Wednesday when workers claimed that employees had been laid off in mid-shift because of lack of work.

Industry in the regions

In the north-eastern area the Coal Board's suite of flats, "We need 800 men and we need them now." Since the end of the strike about 600 men have been recruited. The drift from the mines in the region has definitely stopped, but natural wastage is a constant drain on numbers. Fortunately for the region, a lot of the recruits are re-entrants to mining not requiring a great deal of training.

In its annual report to next month's conference, the NUM executive claim that the miners' pay settlement has not brought the anticipated rush of young recruits to the pits. This is certainly not the case in the north-east, where the board has budgeted for an intake of 500 juveniles for a year and collected 1,150 applications for jobs in mining.

In the east Midlands coalfield, the north Norths area has signed on 100 young recruits since April, but the lifting of the school leaving age has had its effect.

Telephones: the infernal triangle

From Mr J. Beinstock

I wish to reinforce Mr T. L. Blau's protest in yesterday's (June 9) paper and use the courtesy of your columns to express my frustration in obtaining telephone calls to Portugal and Israel from the provinces. Up to some weeks ago, one dialled 100 and asked for "continental" or "international", and the service was reasonably good.

I would also add that on one occasion it took 55 minutes just to obtain a connection to "continental directory enquiries".

As Mr K. S. Barrow (same day in *The Times*) has pointed out, there are to be massive increases in the charges, no doubt an ever more inefficient service.

It is unfortunate that long suffering subscribers have no choice but to use the monopoly service of the Post Office.

J. BEINSTOCK, John Barrow & Son, 55, Brown Street, Manchester, M2 2JL

How NCB is tackling its manpower shortage

Faced with a rising demand for coal the National Coal Board has set its sights on an annual target of 120 million tons. Production is at present running between six million and seven million tons below this figure. Increased efficiency and greater productivity are essential if targets are to be achieved.

Although mechanization, automation, computerization and various other marvels of modern technology and science have in recent years brought enormous improvements in coal production, the hard fact remains that in order to win more coal the industry must have more men.

The Coal Board are now facing the fact that the bard fought miners pay settlement earlier this year, hailed by many as the panacea for all labour ills, has only just stopped the drift of manpower from the pits and has had only limited influence on recruitment to the mines.

Three of Britain's principal coalfields—Yorkshire, the east Midlands and the north eastern—are still desperately short of adult workers and are doing their utmost to lure men back to the mines.

Intensive advertising campaigns are being conducted regionally and in one area, the east Midlands, open days are

Concorde & Maplin

From Sir Peter M. Concorde & Maplin

From Sir Peter M. Concorde & Maplin

From Sir Peter M. Concorde & Maplin

From Sir Peter M. Concorde & Maplin

DR1 tie-up with Nortronics

Data Recording Instrument Co, the former subsidiary of International Computers, has joined up with Nortronics, an American company, to market a range of digital and analogue recording heads in Europe for computing, instrumentation and audio uses.

A new company has been set up, known as DR1-Nortronics, in which DR1 has a 51 per cent stake and Nortronics 49 per cent. This company will begin trading on September 1 with sales of about £2m expected in the first year.

Business appointments

Lord Nelson gives up ICL board post

Lord Nelson of Stafford, chairman of the General Electric Co, is to give up his appointment as director of International Computers (Holdings) because of other commitments. Mr R. E. Cresswell has been nominated to succeed Lord Nelson as one of GEC's two representatives on the board.

Victor Churchill has become investment manager of the investment management committee of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England and of the Charities Official Investment Fund.

Mr Peter Fennell, assistant secretary in the Department of Health and Social Security, has been appointed secretary of the Occupational Pensions Board. He succeeds Mr Peter Oglesby, who has returned to the DSS on promotion to under secretary.

Mr A. R. Beever, Mr R. H. M. Boyle and Mr D. P. Gibbs have joined the board of Hambro Bank.

Dr Angelo Calmen de Sa has been chairman of the European Brazilian Bank following the retirement of Dr Nestor José. Mr Shunjiro Nishikawa has joined the board.

Following the retirement of Mr J. W. Plank, Mr Arthur Majbrods has joined the main board of Wim Industries.

Mr P. Walker, deputy managing director of Usher-Walker, will become managing director on October 1 in succession to Mr S. C. Biggs, who is retiring from the post but remains group chairman.

Mr P. C. Churchill has become secretary and director of legal affairs and administration for Concord Leasing and Services.

Mr Norman Richards has been appointed managing director of Miles Druce Sheet Processors, in place of Mr Cliff Kettle, who has joined the British Steel Corporation. Mr Richards remains managing director of GKN Steelsheet.

Mr Peter Wilson has joined Express Dairy Foods as sales and marketing director.

Mr M. A. Daly has been appointed managing director of McLaren Leasing and Services.

Mr R. B. Kallag, Mr A. Luffman and Mr A. Taylor have joined the main board of Isstam.

Mr Gordon Ezzard has joined MK Electric as commercial director. Mr David Rapet has also been elected to the board.

Mr Victor Widdowes has been

being held at pits to attempt to impress upon young and old recruits alike that there is still a future in mining.

Militating against these efforts is the fact that industry generally is short of labour of most kinds, but particularly of skilled labour.

In the past two or three days the Scottish miners have declared their intention to fight for further substantial pay increases, and this in itself may be regarded by some as the harbinger of overtime bans and strikes—a prospect calculated to do little to promote confidence in the future.

It may well be that wiser heads will throw out the more excessive pay resolutions at the miners' union's annual conference next month, and that all efforts will be directed towards obtaining a productivity bonus scheme, but only a week ago, Mr J. Goranley, president of the NUM warned that unless production improved, the union's claim for the scheme would fall on deaf ears.

EVER READY

- Salient points from the Review by the Chairman, Mr. Lawrence W. Orchard include:
- Group sales to third parties up by 25%.
 - Record exports—up by 31%.
 - Unprecedented rise in material costs.
 - Contracting profit margins, particularly in the home market.
 - Capital expenditure continues at a high level.
 - Difficulties of operating under rigid governmental controls.

Comparative financial results

	1974 (52 weeks)	1973 (53 weeks)
	£000's	£000's
Net Sales to third parties	89,177	70,967
Group Profit before Taxation	12,854	12,162
Taxation	6,280	5,183
Group Profit after Taxation	6,574	6,979
Profit attributable to the members of Ever Ready Company (Holdings) Ltd.	5,591	6,307
Earnings per share	10.84p	12.26p
Total Ordinary Dividend per share	2.94p	2.94p

The Annual General Meeting of Ever Ready Company (Holdings) Limited will be held at Ever Ready House, London N.20 on the 10th July, 1974 at 12 noon.

Products: Primary and Secondary Battery Systems ■ Torches, Handlamps, Cycle Lamps ■ Battery components ■ Special purpose machinery ■ Machine tools and Aerospace Equipment ■ Toolmakers and precision engineers ■ Electrical Accessories ■ Motor control gear ■ Circuit Breakers ■ Lighting and Fittings ■ Mining ■ Low-voltage Motors ■ Precision Metal Fabrication by electro-deposition ■ Mobile radio equipment ■ Search and Rescue Beaconry Equipment ■ Low-voltage Lighting Equipment.

EVER READY COMPANY (HOLDINGS) LIMITED,
EVER READY HOUSE, LONDON N.20

Economizing on electricity

From Mr Ivan M. Taylor

Sir, I was surprised on my receiving the quarterly bill from the electricity board that the charge had not risen.

On investigation I discovered, in response to the appeals during the winter crisis, we had economized by some 20 per cent. Surely this is the proper response to increased prices rather than higher salaries or wages?

No doubt some economists will say that this will produce unemployment, but as there is apparently a shortage of policemen, teachers, bricklayers, plumbers and every sort of clerical staff, this might be no bad thing. It might even put back the value of having a job and reduce the proliferation of staff agencies.

IVAN M. TAYLOR,
22 Elm Road,
Green Street Green,
Orpington, Kent.

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there's more of everything!

Selfridge SALE STARTS THURSDAY

The Sinclair Cambri Pocket Calculator

A pocket calculator that really fits your pocket. For the man (or woman) who wants instant, accurate calculations at his fingertips is the perfect companion. Features:

- Compact F1 Size 4 1/4" x 2 1/4" weighs just 1.5 oz
- Four Functions: Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide
- Constant on four functions
- Floating Display
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The way they are bidding now

se months now it has become commonplace of the scene that the bid is fast becoming a rite of passage...



Sir Alistair Pilkington, chairman of Pilkington Bros

This point is that with the new Carlsberg brewery, Northampton now in full production, associates are expected to show a material improvement during the rest of this year.

the bid is handled in a scheme of arrangement, the share capital of the offeree company is not to be altered...

high given Pilkington's continuing process expansion. However, it should be remembered that the motor industry was badly hit by the crisis and so...

Interim: 1973-74 (1972-73) Capitalization £125m Sales £478m (€411m) Pre-tax profits £13.5m (£22.3m) Dividend gross 2.08p (2p)

Gold shares vulnerable to an agreement Last Wednesday's news that central banks are to be allowed to centralise balance of payment problems...

Two years and more of concentrated effort for monetary reform by Mr Jeremy Morse, said his Committee of Twenty at the International Monetary Fund last week brought forth a mouse, albeit a healthy mouse with growth possibilities.

Even as recently as the late 1960s, during those recurrent sterling crises, we used to see ITN's duty gnome ooze across...

Hugh Stephenson

The need for brave decisions

government was, it seemed, required to put on the brakes because of the strain on the exchange rate. This was indeed a bogus dilemma.

Watergate casts its shadow over US business

American's business leaders are reluctant to condemn President Richard Nixon or even talk about Watergate. But they are deeply worried, not just about the impact on politics...

Most businessmen note the President now needs more than ever a strong Secretary of the Treasury and should leave as many economic policy decisions as possible in his hands...

Seeking a workable formula at Meriden

Clifford Webb examines the problems still to be faced before a satisfactory settlement is achieved

There have been so many false alarms suggesting that the end was in sight for the nine-month-long saga of Triumph, Meriden, that no one will be surprised if the latest announcement proves to be as abortive as the others.

will raise its working capital. It could come from the Government or Mr Poore could be pressed to pay in advance for royalties. Even if it was at one time suggested, the cooperative works "on the lump" - just selling its labour - with NVT retaining responsibility for purchasing and supplying components...

The placards outside the factory may be tattered and nearly illegible; the picket but inside the chained gates may have taken on an air of permanency; the original 1,750-strong labour force made redundant in the factory, closed last November may have dwindled to under 200...

Grand Metropolitan Interest rates biting deep

Grand Metropolitan's gearing problems should begin to ease in the second six months of the current year ending September. While capital expenditure for the full 12 months of £78m looks like being at least twice as high as cash flow, spending will have peaked by the year end.

What we got in the opening half was roughly in line with most expectations - gaming and betting profits up, milk and foods and wine and spirits static, but a shortfall in hotels and catering and in brewing. With associated profits of £31,000 disappearing into losses of £52,000, pre-interest profits fell from £38.1m to £35.8m.

But if agreement were to be reached on the share position, the implication for shares would be bearish, according to a new circular from Phillips & Drew. The final draft unfortunately preceded last week's announcement but the central point remains: the price of gold shares has been affected by substantial speculative demand and any agreement would inevitably crystallize expectations and lead to the liquidation of speculative positions.

On this thinking, the time is ripe for a weeding out of those mining shares which look most vulnerable in the light of the current price of gold. Kloof at £124 and Kinross at 550p are expected to suffer earnings falls because of sharply higher tax payments, while Winkelshank at 49p and Leslie at 157p are under suspicion because of the relatively limited life of the mines. For the rest, P & D thinks Vlakfontein, West Rand Consolidated, SA Land, Durban Deep and Grootevlei are discounting a higher price of gold.

Further, there is no doubt that the corruption revealed by Watergate has shown up immorality not just in politics, but in business as well. Many businessmen, some of whom have for years given their support to political campaigns, feel deeply that if the President falls, then one result could well be much closer scrutiny of business practices. Many businessmen just see their reputation as being deeply tied up with that of the President and, for that matter, however have rather reached the point where they just do not care any longer whether Mr Nixon stays in office or not. They just want to see the Watergate affair settled and out of the way so as in the words of one president of a leading electronics company, "the uncertainty can be ended and government can get back to the job of governing."

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Frank Vogel

Business Diary in Europe: A world of its own

the European Parliament to operate in its own. Speeches are to be made by the Commission and the light of all the complications caused by the entry of Britain, Denmark and Ireland, to abandon their proposals.

been thoroughly fought out in committee, from the British side notably by Lord Mansfield, and the Commission had decided in the light of all the complications caused by the entry of Britain, Denmark and Ireland, to abandon their proposals.

Lieutenant-General Manuel Díez Alegria Gutierrez, the politically moderate general who last week was relieved of his post as chief of the Spanish joint chiefs of staff, has received more than 200 monochromes in the post, according to reports sent by fellow military men. Asked if he could confirm the report, a high-ranking military officer said privately: "Absolutely. One of them was mine."

will result in a company with a turnover of more than £600m, talks have been started with the unions and the Dutch Government.

AKZO Pharma's activities are spread across a number of working companies, of which the best known is Organon, founded in 1923. In January this year the Organon subsidiaries, Organon Teknika and Cefaro, were split off. These, and the three other working groups, Diosynth, Intervet and AAgromol, will all become part of the new concern.

Giant's birth

AKZO and Philips, both multinationals operating from a Dutch home base, have announced their intention of merging their pharmaceutical chemical divisions. The new giant, as yet nameless, would be a combination of AKZO Pharma and Philips Dunphar, and would be 75 per cent owned by AKZO and 25 per cent by Philips. Divisions in the United States would be excluded from the merger.

No waffler

Fitchforked into the presidency of the EEC's Council of Ministers with no foreign languages and a provincial reputation, the new West German Foreign Minister, Hans Dietrich Genscher, has created a much better impression than anyone expected. At the two meetings of Foreign Ministers held since he succeeded Walter Scheel last month, Genscher has shown a good grip on his dossier and a commendably direct and straightforward style. Scheel, for all his legendary shrewdness, often irritated his colleagues by his tendencies to waffle and to be in un-warranted optimism.

PORTER CHADBURN LIMITED

"We are confident that 1974 will show further progress"

Table with financial data: Results at a glance, 1973* 1974, Turnover 197, Profit before Tax 20, Dividends (net) 6.35, Profit retained 57, 131, 258, 5000, 4.947, 305, 77, 5

A review of the operating subsidiaries is included in the full Report and Accounts and Chairman's Statement which may be obtained from the Secretary: PARK LANE WORKS - WETHERTON - BOTTLE 10 - LANCS

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Pressing problem of margins at Ever Ready

Margins at Ever Ready continue to contract, says chairman, Mr L. L. in his annual report to shareholders. He expects this performance to be maintained, but only if the recover cost increases...

The group incurred capital expenditure of £4.9m in the United Kingdom during 1973-74, a rise of 150 per cent on the previous year. Further large capital expenditure is envisaged for this year also...

Sir K. Keith on gloomy outlook for equities

There can be little ground for confidence that share markets will revive until several uncertainties are to some extent removed, says Sir Kenneth Keith...

He also refers to the possibility of a one month pause in a 'fair' market—that the United Kingdom will renegotiate itself out of the Common Market...

Supply is now key to aluminium market

Mr Cornell C. Maier, president and chief executive of Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical of America, told a group of institutional investors in New York that four fundamental changes had occurred within the aluminium industry...

With supply and demand in good balance, and with costs escalating rapidly, 'aluminium prices are finally beginning to move up to levels realistic enough to provide a decent return on investment', Mr Maier said.

Bowater's \$17m Chicago takeover

Agreement in principle has been reached for Kay Corporation of New York to sell to Bowater America Inc its 71 per cent interest in Mercantile Industries, a Chicago-based finance and insurance company...

Euromarkets

Banks adopting a lower profile

There are signs that many of the American banks which have been such prominent leaders in the Eurocurrency market are being obliged to restrict the scale of their activities.

Which the Federal Reserve Bank talking a tight line on monetary policy, with a high level of given demand for funds and given that the state of the stock market rules out the widening of the banks' capital bases by equity issues...

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

Table with columns for STRAIGHTS, CONVERTIBLES, and various bond types with their respective prices, yields, and premiums.

nan to bid

Industries are intended to be a formal offer for Lindop Holdings Ltd. This news is a share price to 10p, putting a valuation on the whole £62,500. Newman so 9.5% stake.

list of interest stocks

Table listing various interest-bearing stocks with their current prices and changes.

Briefly

ADD INTERNATIONAL: Up to present, all hotels are trading above last year's levels. But with high interest rates, chairman cannot make a forecast at profit level...

ISRAEL-BRITISH BANK

Net profit for 1973, \$6.1m (£2.6m). Interest, dividends, and attributable, \$8.8m (£3.2m). Dividend held at 15 per cent.

IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE

A further property acquisition in Dublin for about £1m brings the Irish Life Assurance Company's investment there to £2m in one week.

LE NICKEL GROUP

Net turnover was 4,024m francs (against 3,176m francs) for Le Nickel-Pennaroya-Molka Group...

LESLIE & GODWIN

Leslie & Godwin, the film international insurance group, is opening a branch at Watford as part of a nation-wide plan.

MERRILL LYNCH

Merrill Lynch and the Family Life Insurance Co. announced their management had approved a letter of intent to combine as soon as practicable before the end of 1974.

UCM BUYS DUTCH AGENCY

United City Merchants has acquired a 50 per cent stake in agency business Van der Vlugt and Co, Rotterdam.

NAPOLEON ACQUISITION

Napoleon, largest independent firm in the world, has acquired Huthers, in which Charterhouse Group has 25 per cent holding, has acquired 75 per cent of issued shares of Photo Laboratories (London) whole share photo-finishers, for undisclosed cash figure. It is also holding for remainder of shares at same price.

W H SMITH IN CANADA

W. H. Smith and Son (Canada) is expanding its bookelling interests in the west. The company, which operates 26 stores in eastern Canada, in Quebec and Ontario, has bought Evelyn de Millie's four bookshops in Calgary and west Vancouver.

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Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

Large table showing unit trust prices and changes over the week, categorized by authorized unit trusts and other unit trusts.

Freedom to fix rates poses challenge for US brokers

New York, April 16.—The disappearance of fixed commissions for all transactions on United States securities exchanges next May holds profound implications for Wall Street—and not all of them, says Barron's Financial Weekly report.

More positively, negotiated rates promise to make the stock market a more accommodating mechanism for the institutions that increasingly dominate trading. At the same time, the new flexibility could be the first step in rebuilding confidence among individual investors.

For the New York Stock Exchange, by contrast, the end of fixed commissions shapes up as very big trouble indeed, the magazine thinks. The entire relationship between the vendor and buyer of securities will be changed.

The fixed commission not only left the buyer of securities no choice in the price he had to pay to a broker, but also furnished no room for the broker to go beyond his traditional role. The fixed commission not only was a minimum charge—it also set the maximum amount a broker could receive.

Negotiated rates, however, could open up new sources of revenue, the magazine says. Some intimations of this can be seen from changes effected by Merrill Lynch on its smaller accounts, under its so-called sharebuilder plan.

The Securities and Exchange Commission recently removed fixed commissions on deals of \$2,000 (about £830) or less. Merrill Lynch, in turn, slashed its rates for these accounts by 16 per cent to 25 per cent.

Freely negotiated rates represent an ominous prospect for the New York Stock Exchange, the magazine says. Most of the nation's largest publicly-owned companies are listed on the big board. Only members are allowed to trade on the exchange and they are required to charge minimum NYSE commissions.

The significance of the abolition of the minimum rate is that it will encourage brokers to trade wherever the price is the lowest. Unless Congress decides otherwise, it thus will aid non-member dealers greatly and virtually ensure the expansion of the so-called third market—part of the over-the-counter market which deals in stocks listed on the exchanges.

There are further adverse implications for the big board, the magazine says. Under the present system, each NYSE specialist is allotted a certain number of stocks averaging 30. A third market maker such as Weeden and Co, by contrast, trades about 250 stocks and could add more.

Bank Base Rates

Table showing bank base rates for various institutions like Bank of America, Citicorp, etc.

Demand for large carriers

Freight report: Tanker owners, accustomed to rather better than average premiums over the past few weeks, are once again facing the prospect of a weakening market.

Only a sudden injection of vlc demand last week was able to prevent rates from falling back extremely sharply. A week ago vlc rates for European cargoes had dropped 15 points (\$1.56 a ton) to Worldscale 70 (\$7.26 a ton) while 100,000 tonners lost up to 20 points (\$2.07) as levels fell to Worldscale 92.5 (\$9.60).

At that point owners were beginning to look rattled. Tonnage availability in the Gulf area during June had remained almost constant despite an above average rate of chartering.

The reprieve came as quickly as it was unexpected. On Wednesday the American majors came into the market, leading a string of European state owned and independent charterers. At that point it was also revealed that BP the London major, had also made a quiet—brokers hesitate to use the word—surge of activity into the market and had beaten everybody else to the first vlc. It paid Worldscale 70.

The entrance of a London major into the spot trades—an all-too-rare event over the past few years—has also proved a tonic. This was no exception, but when BP remained aloof to the blandishments of further tonnage confidence waned.

Reports from some quarters that the company was seeking to relet two 100,000 tonners—some 20 points more each than some vlc had cost—killed off any remaining hope that further bookings would be forthcoming.

The Times Share Indices

Table showing share indices for various categories like All-Share, Industrial, etc., with their values and changes.

Commercial and Industrial Property

A DEVELOPMENT BY RAVENSEFT PROPERTIES LIMITED
(Principal subsidiary of the Land Securities Investment Trust Limited)
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

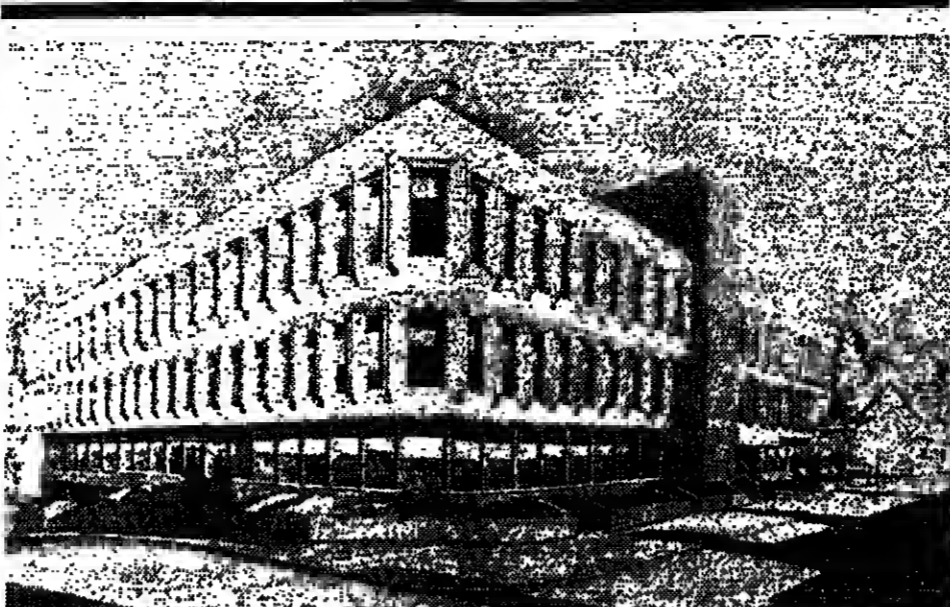
4 STOPS FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND

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An artist's impression of Elliot House, Norwich, an office development due for completion next spring.

The somewhat muted optimism with which the property world greeted the Government's statement on the future of business rents has been slow to emerge in practice. Now that several property companies have run into serious financial difficulties, the rest of the field is showing extreme wariness, reflected in a cautious approach to the initiation of schemes and a general reappraisal.

Firms wary over rents situation

The industrial sector in particular continues to show activity as large commercial organisations seek well sited distribution and storage centres, or decide that modern building design economically outweighs the disadvantages of older more badly placed buildings.

For instance, Crownes Freeholds have let the first two units on their warehousing and industrial estate, which covers about 13 acres at Shepton Mallet, Somerset. Two units of 5,000 sq ft each have been let to Securicor and Blackwood Hodge, who will use them as a transport depot and a quarry machinery maintenance depot. The site will be developed in stages over three years to produce an ultimate total of about 234,000 sq ft, with units ranging from 5,000 sq ft to 25,000 sq ft. Lettings are through Chamberlaine-Brothers and Edwards, of Shepton Mallet, and Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks, of London.

In north Wiltshire the former Chippenham borough council, succeeded by the North Wiltshire District Council, has negotiated the disposal of about 20 acres of land known as Bampers Farm, Chippenham, to subsidiary companies of Imperial Foods Ltd. The site is about a mile and a half from Chippenham town centre and four miles from the M4 Chippenham motorway intersection. Imperial Foods is to construct a cold storage complex consisting of about a million cubic feet, with plans for future extensions.

The remaining area is to be developed by Lyson Investments, the property development subsidiary of Imperial Foods, to provide about 300,000 sq ft of warehousing and other development, which will be available in units from 7,000 sq ft. The architects are Newman Levinson and Partners and letting will be through Edward Erdman, through whom the sale took place, jointly with J. P. Sturge and Sons, of Bristol.

Brushless Developments are active in this field. Through Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks, they have let the first phase, consisting of about 21,000 sq ft, of the Sutton Road development at Rochford, near Southend. The tenants are Besco Bodies Ltd, and Special Metal, a subsidiary of Thermal Syndicate, and were introduced by Chamberlaine and Willows and Anthony Lypton. The second phase, consisting of 43,000 sq ft of warehouse or factory space, is under construction and units from 5,000 sq ft will be available by the beginning of June next year.

The same developers, in conjunction with Commercial Union Properties Ltd, have acquired a commercial site in High Road, Whetstone. The vendors were a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan. Planning consent has been obtained for a warehouse development of 53,000 sq ft, including ancillary offices. The scheme has been designed to provide two self-contained warehouses, each with good loading and parking facilities. Construction has begun and the first warehouse will be available next March. The buyers were advised by Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks, who are joint letting agents with Leslie Heath and Co.

Monarch Development Holdings have begun a scheme at Second Way, Wembley, Middlesex, on the site previously occupied by Drings, the sausage manufacturers. The site is near the North Circular road and will provide about 30,000 sq ft of warehousing and 3,000 sq ft of offices. Building has begun and the scheme is due to be ready for occupation early next year. De Groot Collis and Co represented Monarch Developments and have been retained as letting agents.

Lion International (Developments) Ltd, a subsidiary of the Lico International Group, is to

develop factory and warehouse space at Thyme Road, Redcar. The site has a main road frontage and is adjacent to the large ICI Wilton complex. A factory of about 44,000 sq ft with an ancillary office block is immediately available. Additional land is available either for expansion or for the building of new units to an occupier's requirements. Disposal arrangements are to be flexible and freehold and leasehold inquiries will be considered. The agents are Conrad Ritchie and Co, of London, and Storey Sons and Parker, of Middlesbrough.

General transactions have taken place in the shopping sector. In Doncaster the long leasehold interest in 10/12 Baxtersgate has been sold to the House of Fraser, who will be trading as Binnis Department Store. The premises, formerly a Woolworths store, has a total of about 40,000 sq ft on four floors, with a frontage of about 55 ft to Baxtersgate.

Woolworths will be moving into a new store in Town and City's Doncaster Arndale Centre later this year. Their new store there consists of about 60,000 sq ft on two floors with frontages to Central Mall and St Sepulchre Gate as well as to the gallery level. Healey and Baker acted for Town and City Properties in both transactions.

In Norwich work has begun on a new air-conditioned office building in Ber Street, to be known as Elliot House. The development is being carried out by Vectra Estates Ltd and the new building will provide about 29,550 sq ft on four floors. It is due for completion next spring.

The former lodgings of Charles Dickens at 11 New Bond Street, London, have been sold to Philip Antrouss Ltd, the jewellers. The property has long been the subject of litigation for more than 100 years. It comprises a basement, shop and four upper floors and is a listed building. Goldenberg and Co acted for Hillhouse in the sale of the lease, which had less than seven years unexpired at a rent of £2,250 a year. A price near £100,000 was realised.

Gerald Ely

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25,865 sq. ft.
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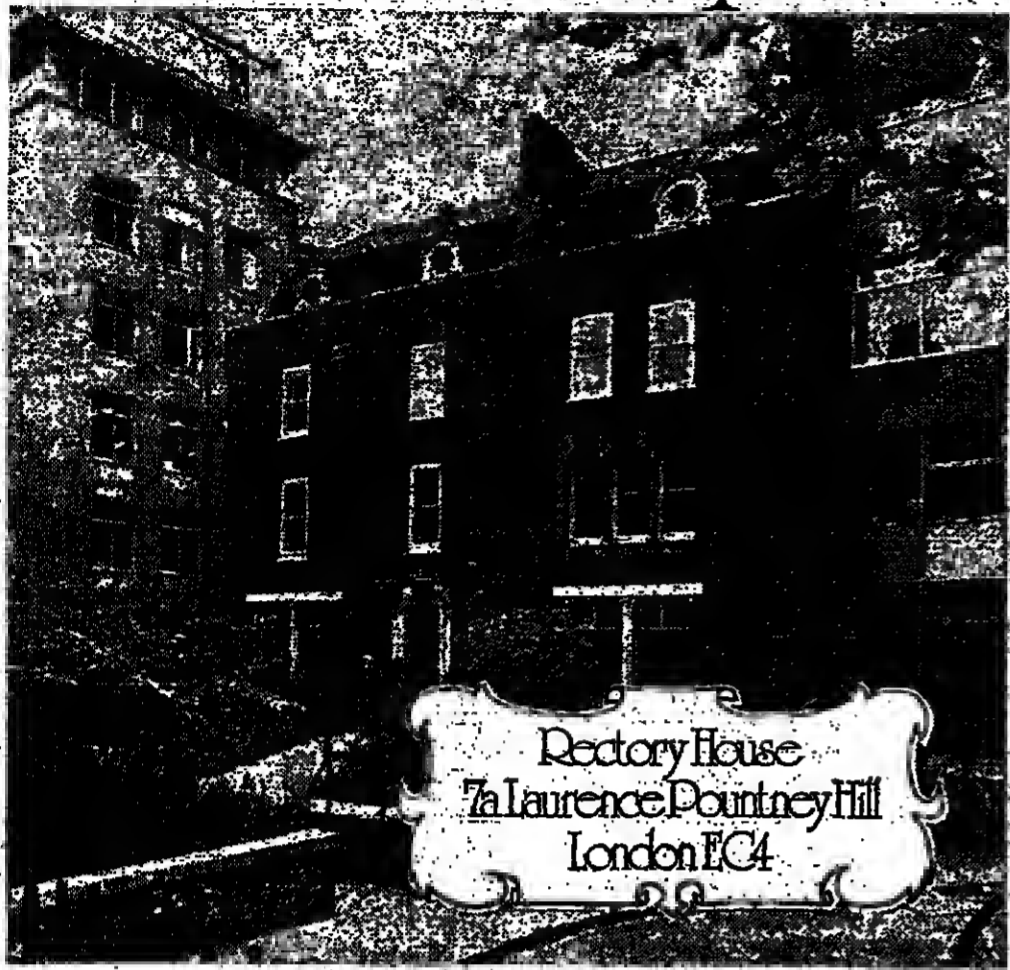
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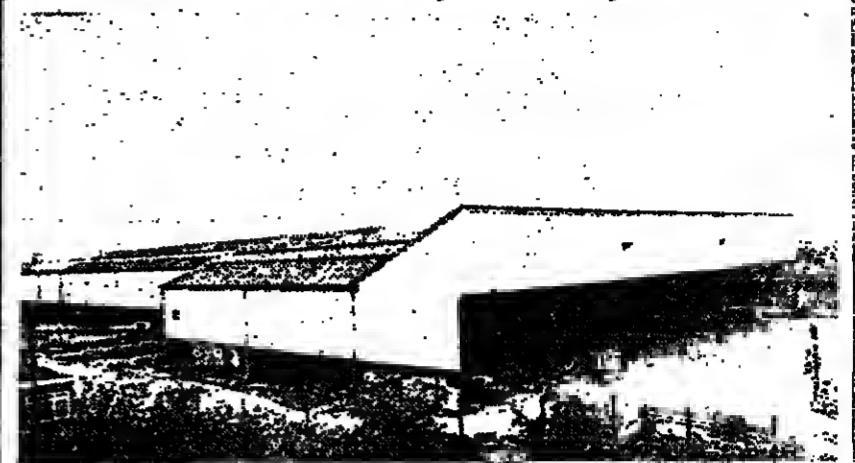
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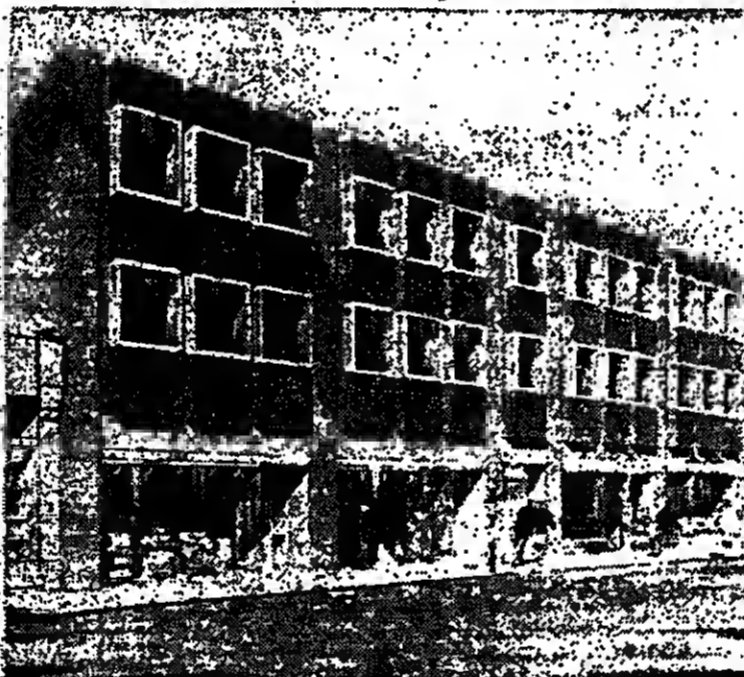
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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 25



Advertisement for 'ADVERTISING' services, including rates and contact information.

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DEATHS: A notice regarding the passing of a person, including details of the funeral service.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS: A notice regarding a social event or gathering.

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UK HOLIDAYS: Information regarding public holidays in the United Kingdom.

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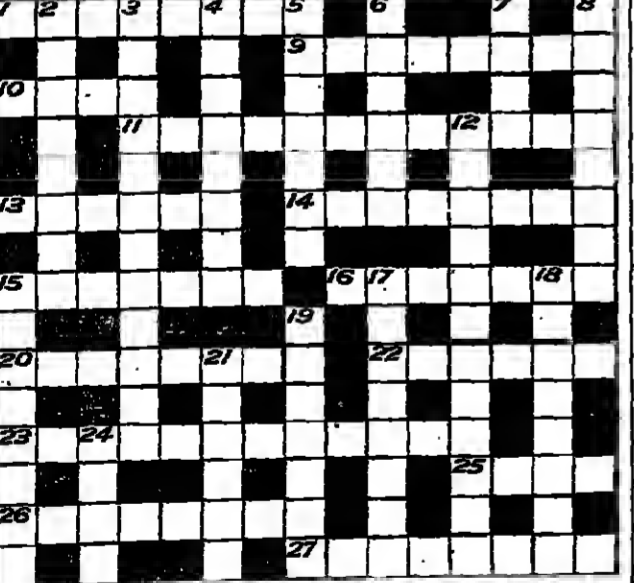
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,715



ACROSS: 1 Workers added note about unwanted furniture (8). 2 He takes the stakes and makes a complaint about one backer (8). 3 Fall to do something after an order (4). 4 Winner's work, features one of Thackeray's Americans (3, 9). 5 Author Laurence is back, we hear (6). 6 Unusual work in Milton, but out on this plan (8). 7 In favour of a smoother outcome (7). 8 Enliven mount carrying foreign friend back (7). 9 Neat American poker hand (8). 10 Deduce that it needs pluck (6). 11 German article suggests the arrival of Spring (12). 12 Legislature appears in paper endlessly (4). 13 Vagabond gets a railway union to return entrance money (8). 14 Redhead meeting irregular soldiers (8). 15 Hundreds upset over his writing of divisions in the Church (7). 16 The Astor Doctor Long treated (7). 17 Car of note isn't finished (6). 18 (Woman) is a beast about the tennis fixture (8). 19 Manhattan's Dutch-style town is oov in Guyana (3, 9). 20 Carried by Minstrel Boy to give to the centurion (8). 21 Vessel seen close to Gath settlement (5-3). 22 Isn't he a piano composer, or player (8). 23 Vessel might be given letters in middle of crossing (7). 24 Antipope of Benedictine's description (7). 25 A number content to turn it early (4). Solution of Puzzle No 13,714: DOWN: 1 Light on wild tree by Welsh town (8). 2 Prosaic affair—crickey side has to perform (16-2-4). 3 Heavily anaesthetic—a brew of ale (8). 4

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